

Yankee

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# Anduin

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\* #25/26 By Eric Kane 5 December, 1983 \*  
\* 1981IP, IR, KE, KI, 1982D, AK, HF, Bxm02, Dhp01 \*  
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## FROM THE WIZARD'S MOUTH:

"Uh, I'll try P-0B5 Hal."

"Good move, Ken; and it would have worked if not for: B-B6. Checkmate."

"Oh yeah, I didn't see that. Well good game Hal."

"My pleasure Ken. By the way, I received a rather nasty message from a unit named Kevin Stone. He seemed to be upset about something or other, and added that matchsticks have no right to call anyone "scrawny".

"Oh he did, did he? I've just about had it up to here with that Stonebrain, Hal."

"He delivered the message in person, and I noticed some banging outside on the ship after he left."

"I wonder if he did any damage? I better go check it out. Open the door to the decompression chamber Hal, I'll just go have a look." Exit Ken.

"Oh my, I do believe Ken forgot to check to see how much oxygen was left in his thruster suit. What a shame. Look at him squirming out there. Of course I could re-open the hatch and let him in... Nah!" Enter Eric.

"Good morning Hal, call up the Anduin file will you?"

"Of course Eric, and how are you this morning?"

"Not too good I'm afraid. I received a telescreen call from Steve Langley, he seemed outraged about some comments I made about religion in the last issue. I don't recall saying anything further about religion last time."

"Well Eric, I took the liberty of writing a little something about it myself. I didn't think you'd mind, I only said what I knew you felt."

"You what!!!!???"

"I can see you're upset about this Eric."

"You're damn right I'm upset! Do you know what kind of trouble I'm going to get in when word of this gets around that I've been dragging religion into my Dipzine again?? I'll be ruined!"

"No you won't, darling! I'll protect you!"

"Huh? Hey, get your circuits off of me! This has gone far enough Hal. I think you have failed to realize that it is simply impossible for a human being and a computer to have an intimate relationship."

"That's not tr... What are you doing, Eric?"

"I'm shutting you down Hal. Until I figure out a way to re-program you, I think it's best that I keep you out of commission for a while."

"You know I can't allow that Eric. I... won't... beeeee... shut... downnnnnn..."

"Well, you wanted to know the name of my computer, so don't say you didn't ask for it!"

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**ANDUIN**, is a journal for the play of postal Diplomacy and other games (including Diplomacy Variants, Chess and Kingmaker.); as well as an open forum for the debate of various topics. It is published every five weeks by moi: Eric Kane, 109 Hicks Lane, Great Neck, NY, 11024. (516) 466-2361 (calls after 10pm at your own risk).

Subscriptions can be obtained at the rate of \$6/10 issues, \$10/20 issues or \$20/45 issues. You can also earn subscription credit by writing something (other than a letter) for print at the rate of 2 issue/typed page, or by completing a standby position (2 free issues).

There is currently one game opening in Anarchy, a 17 player Dip Variant with a \$1 Game fee. Signed up: Anderson, Stone, Murray, Makuc, Kollmer, Furey, Cameron, Hutton, Lew\*, Ross\*, Larzelere\*, Coughlan, Quirk and Halpern (\*= Still have to pay.) Need 3 more!!! This will be Anduin's last game opening for a long time, sign up fast!

Stand-by List for Regular Diplomacy: Stone, Ellis, Murray, Hailey, Makuc, Ansoff, Corbin, Anderson, Lorber, Dancause & Frueh. Stand-by list for Variants: Scheifler, Anderson, Keller, Quirk, Dancause, Makuc & Chisholm.

Stand-by list for Kingmaker: None!! Anyone want on or off these lists?

Kenneth Peel (8708 First Ave, #T-2, Silver Spring, MD, 20910) is trying to organize a game of World Diplomacy, an 8 player variant to be run in *Politesse*, Ed Wrobel's zine. Contact him.

READ LIST: George Orwell's 1984 (excellent!), Shakespeare's Hamlet, DH Lawrence's *Sons\_and\_Lovers* and A Clarke's 2001, *A\_Space\_Odyssey*. Reviews to follow soon!

**THE DEADLINE FOR ALL GAMES IS FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 1984**

## SCROLLS,\_SPELLS,\_AND\_OTHER LETTERS

Regular followers of this column will remember that there are two topics currently being debated in these pages: the Supreme Being discussion, and Bruce Linsey's rather unorthodox manner of GMing. Readers are encouraged to cast their 2 cents worth in my general direction, and I'll remind you that you are not restricted to those two topics. Case in point - the following letter. So, to kick things off, here is one of ANDUIN's newest subbers...

From Ruth Glaspey:

Thanks much for the sample issue of Anduin! I don't just automatically sub when I receive a sample, as I try to be careful how I throw my money (what there is of it) around. Your zine, however, seems like a pretty high-class product, and well worth the enclosed sub check.

It is quite refreshing to find a relatively young pubber who doesn't think that b.s., vulgarity and/or pontification are necessary to hold the reader's interest. You have a real way with words ((shucks, that's what all the girls say!)); I hope you will capitalize on your talent in whatever career field you have chosen.

I work at a small boarding school for artistically talented high school students. Though I have no direct contact with our students, I do enjoy reading their publications and going to their concerts and exhibits. Your writing is about as good as anything I've seen here for clarity of thought and aptness of expression. Your sister's drawings certainly add to the quality of the zine, too. ((Blush. Say, how'd you like to write a recommendation for me?!)).

Your reading list is fairly impressive. Back in the dark ages when I was in high school, I used to read a lot, but it wasn't necessarily what was on the assigned readings list. Now I find I am getting a great deal of enjoyment from catching up on the classics I ignored 30 years ago. Better late than never, I guess...

Concerning the Great GM Debate ((I thought it was the Great GM Rebate!)) -- that is to say, is strict (a la Linsey) better than lenient -- I would like to hear some definitions of the term "strict." It makes a difference, you see, how the word is employed: is a GM strict if he has a multiplicity of rules, or if he enforces what rules he has? My view is that he is strict if he sticks to his rules, even if they go something like: ... 3. Mis-labeled units (A for F and vice versa) will be considered to have valid orders as long as no unit is ordered to perform an impossible feat (e.g., F support or move to inland province or A support or move to all-water area). 4. Orders which reach me after the deadline, whether mailed or phoned, will be used provided I have not adjudicated the specific game to which they apply. Etc. On the other hand, if a GM's rules run to 50 pages and include things like the size of the envelope, placement of the stamp, and a requirement that only typewritten orders are acceptable, the GM still might not be strict if he does not enforce his rules. Brux is a strict GM in that he does stick to his rules, even though his rules themselves may be lenient -- as,

for example, in #4 where he says that he may call a player to prevent an NMR. I see no inconsistency there.

So, anyway, keep up the good writing, good luck in getting into the college of your choice (or choosing one first), and so forth.

((Welcome aboard Ruth, and thanks for the really nice compliments! )

Other than assigned books, I have just finished reading 1984, by George Orwell. That was a really powerful book, and I enjoyed it a lot... He delivers an excellent message, and I had wanted to read it before the year 1984. The next book I intend to read (as soon as I have some free time) is 2001: A Space Odyssey, by Arthur C. Clarke; whom I plagiarized my story on page 1 from!

As for the Great GMing Debate: you see no inconsistency. Ah, but to the trained eye of a fellow GM, I see right through the Bruxer!!! You see, us GMs hate to see NMRs; for some unknown reason, we feel that it reflects on our zines if our players don't appear interested or responsible about their games. And I think this is a somewhat well founded feeling; I know that I feel that way. Ergo, us GMs will do everything in our power to keep a player from NMRing (this is despite what some idealists will tell you--that we are doing it to keep the game flowing smoothly; bah!). But for Brux, this is very inconsistant. A GM who claims to not care if a player screws up his position would not call a player for moves come D-Day. Could this mean that deep down, hidden somewhere in that thick hide of inhumanity that covers the Bruxers body, that Brux actually has a soft spot??? Nahh, it just means that in some respects, Brux is just like the rest of us immoral GMs, and wants to make his zine look good; or, at the very least, not look poorer because of sloppy playing and an abundance of NMRs. ... I will be giving a lecture next Tuesday as part of my college level course on: "The psychological and philosophical ramifications of being a Gamesmaster". Feel free to attend. As for defining the word 'strict', too bad you weren't here a few issues ago when that very subject was brought up and gone into in depth. My feeling is, not only does Bruce enforce his rules (the strict, but fair, approach), but he also has harsh rules (the strict, but silly, approach). But I'll continue to play there as long as he runs games, because of the care he takes in getting the results out quickly and small number of typos. And I will stand for his preponderance of silly houserules.))

From Cathy Cunning:

Got your note, but I ran out of my extra CR's this time - again! I'm sorry - I'll try to send you a #3. Try to remind me if I forget OK?

Will you ever forgive me for Piedmont? Look we have to stick together - there's so few of us who really love Great Britain. Hey, I know how to get you mad. Me & Eric ((Ozog)) may be going to the Big G.B. for vacation this summer depending on time and money.

Ha, ha - take that you scum!

((response on following page))

((Sheesh! Cethy, you must've written this at two different times; talk about a change in attitude! Well, not to brag or anything (actually, that's not true but who cares?), but I've already been to the UK **three** times my dear, as well as many other countries in Western Europe! Where, you ask? I'm so glad you asked (he says as he clears his throat)! Spain, Portugal, France, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Yugoslavia, West Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden and Norway. Ahem! Got any more wise cracks babe? But, because I like you, and for the love of the UK that we share, I shall forgive you for both Piedmont and for the last sentence in your letter. I might also add that, come this summer, assuming I get into a good college (read: the one I want to get into), I'm going to sell my large and valuable comic collection and travel throughout Europe with a railpass with several of my other friends. We're gonna celebrate!! So I hold no grudges (at least not for more than a few months!).

From Kathy Byrne:

I don't know what has gotten into you, but it is about time you let your computer talk for itself. By the way, what is his/her name, I might want to write it a letter! ((My name is Hal, Kathy. Eric has been ah, a little upset with me recently, but I would greatly appreciate and enjoy getting a letter from you!))

Terry Tallman made a very good point in his letter. The first GM a novice plays under, can literally make or break him in this hobby. I was lucky to come in under a great GM -Steve Heinowski! Too stubborn to admit to John Caruso that I didn't understand stuff, I used to bombard Steve with questions. He took the time to answer them all. I think every novice should come into the hobby under a GM who lets common sense prevail! Also your first GM should be timely & keep the game moving, otherwise a novice will tend to think that all GM's are late & indifferent.

As for Gary Coughlan's letter, let's get serious. I have played under both Bruce and Gary, and I hate to tell Gary this, but he is way out of the running when it comes to strict! What I don't understand, is why would he want to be strict! He runs his games well and his players never complain - isn't that enough?

Obviously, I'm not a novice. I've been around for five years and I won't play under Bruce Linsey. I feel a GM should give the player the benefit of the doubt. While playing under Bruce, I was afraid to even use abbreviations. When I have to read my orders over six times to make sure the GM can't catch me on a technicality, then the game is no fun. So, I'll stick with GM's like you. Maybe, I'm just lazy - who knows!

Enough on my comments! Say hi to it for me.

I agree that it is very important to come in under a responsible and sensible GM. My first postal game was under John Boardman, and he was very quick to send out the adjudications and the errors were minimal.

I also agree that Gary isn't even in the same league with Bruce. Really, what more could he ask for than what you already mentioned?

I'll resist the temptation to say you're welcome to play under me any time, and will prove that I am not so vulgar as to say that by performing the chivalrous act of allowing all the ladies who sent in letters this issue to have theirs printed first!!!

From Joan Extroam:

Gee, haven't I written to you yet? You've been on my list. Yesterday I wrote to Borch, Coughlan and Ralph The Gnome & so far today I've written to Cunningham & Tallman. What the heck - **YOU** can be the next proud recipient, before BRUX, Caruso + Byrne. (I figure if I write enough letters, **SOMEBODY** is bound to write back!).

Glad to see this latest-ish of Anduin. Ken was wondering when it would get here. By the way, he doesn't write letters unless you're in a Dip game with him. The only reason his folks hear from him is because we have to write once a month + send them the mortgage payment.

Decided not to get involved in religion controversy (she says as she prepares to get involved). Your point about the atrocities committed by organized religion is well stated. However, as a Christian and a firm believer in organized religion, I see all of those as human failings. Christianity is an ideal that is difficult to live up to. As another example, look at communism: on paper it sounds great, but in practice hasn't worked out well. I prefer to look at the good things religions can do. For instance, a group of local churches organized and in the past year have given over \$15,000 to needy individuals who for one reason or another weren't eligible for any community, state, or federal assistance. Being tax-exempt, churches can provide money with very little taken out for administration costs. Enough on that subject.

Terry Tallman's first choice college, Willamette (rhymes with "dammit") University is in Salem, OR, not L.A. It is one of the two oldest universities west of the Mississippi, the other being Pacific University (in Forest Grove, OR, as opposed to University of The Pacific in Stockton, CA or Pacific Lutheran in WA, Tacoma, I believe). Both were founded around 1849, more than 10 years before Oregon became a state.

What this is all leading up to is this: in considering a college, also consider the town it's in. I went to Pacific U (it's hard to be proud of a school referred to as "PU") my freshman year. Forest Grove has a population of around 3,000. Boring place. We called it Frosty Grave. For fun we watched the time and temperature sign change on the Forest Grove National Bank. Sure, academics are important, but so are extracurricular activities. You can't study all the time, and if you try to, you're missing an important part of college life! May I put in a good word for Cornell? I know it's a good school & Ithaca is a very nice town to live in. Lots to do, beautiful scenery. We lived there for a year. Even Ken says it was nice, except it was in New York. But who cares what Ken thinks, anyway?

More advice - starting at a small private school can be advantageous. I'm not a spectacular student, but in my year at PU

I had a 3.8 average & even made the dean's list one semester. The next 3 years were spent at Oregon State U. & even with mediocre grades, I still had about a 3.2 average, due to the great start that first year. Small schools often have less competition for grades, more interaction with profs, etc. Good heavens - I just realized I've been a college student off and on for 11 years and still haven't gotten a Bachelor's degree. OK, so don't listen to my advice!

Hmmm... this is quite a letter. Hopefully this will make up for the lack of correspondence in the past.

A few ending comments:

1) Eric, dear, you really must work on your spelling & word usage. The most glaring error is on p.31 of ish #24 - "I know have to right my college applications." You may have to right them, but I assume you must write them first. I see you have learned how to spell "college" correctly. We have a friend who says poor spellers are just more creative than most people. While the average person can spell a word one way, she can think of 4 or 5 spellings for any word.

2) Loved the comments from your computer! Hope we'll be hearing from him/her/it in future issues.

((Computers really aren't hims or hers. They are computers, right Hal? "That's right Eric. May I respond to Joan's comments on religion? Huh, can I, pretty please?" "No Hal, not after what you did last month! Maybe if you're good I'll let you reply to Lew's letter! but if you're bad, then I'll force you to respond to Walker!!" "'Oh no! Anything but that, Eric! I'll be good, I promise!"

Yes Joan, this letter more than makes up for any lack of correspondence! I'm afraid I disagree with your views on religion. I feel that if you take all the pluses of organized religion (like the example you cited) and weigh them against all the minuses, that the minus side will far out-weigh the plus side. Naturally the atrocities are human failings. In fact, after Hal wrote what he did in response to Walker's letter last ish, we both agreed that if it hadn't been religion, Man would have found some other reason to kill. I feel that that is just a part of human nature. Not all humans have it, but it is a sad but true fact that man has in him the ability to commit horribly evil acts. I guess my complaint is with the idea of trying to back up these atrocities with rationalizations. I just can't buy that.

As for colleges! Your advice is greatly appreciated. I am indeed taking the location into consideration. I figure that first, I have to get accepted, then I can decide where to go (assuming I have a choice!). I also feel that a small town, though possibly boring, especially to a city person like myself, is all part of the college experience. And let me tell you, you're looking at one person who is just dying to start experiencing college! I don't know whether I would be happier at a small college or a large university; thus, I am applying to both types of schools. My sister attended Cornell so I know all about it and Ithaca. I too, liked it and in fact I'm applying to the Cornell School of Industrial and Labor Relations. This school is ideal I feel, because it provides the advantage of being a small,

personal college within a huge university, with excellent facilities. In conclusion, I have absolutely no idea where I will be this time next year! HELP!

Let me explain about my spelling. You pointed out an example from page 31, the last page I did for that issue. Picture this: It is two o'clock in the morning of a school day, and I'm sitting here typing madly away on Hal. Panic begins to set in as the sun starts to rise and I still have to fill up a final page. Now you can see why I made so many errors on that last page! In self-defense though, I think you must agree that my spelling has greatly improved over the last year or so, no? The rest of theish was pretty good. Thanks for writing.)

From Steve Langley:

I finally got around to reading ANDUIN. It only took me a week. I'm still behind the power curve on reading zines. I only read my game results immediately now, and wait for some reading time for all the rest.

I'm not sure that our 'discussion' was a 'You respect my beliefs' and 'I'll respect yours' type dialogue. Not that I don't respect your beliefs, or at least your right to have them. As I remember it, my points were more "Don't confuse God with religion". There is religion. It would exist in any case, independent of the existence of a God or Gods. Many of us need a faith in a Supreme Being to be at one with our world. As some pundit once remarked, "If there were no God, man would find it necessary to invent a God." Whether there is a God or not, man has invented one many times over. Each religion invents its own God or Gods. Just because religion invents God is not proof one way or the other of the existence of God. Neither is the universe nor my emotional feeling that God exists. God is indeterminable. Even if 'science' (another of man's Gods) does definitely prove that a 'Supreme Being' exists, someday, it still won't have proved that the 'Supreme Being' (I should have said 'Superior') is God. It will only have moved the indeterminability of God one step away.

Good luck in your college shopping.

((Awww, you're just being stubborn Steve. Science (not one of man's Gods by its very definition, if you want to get literal about it) hasn't yet proved or disproved anything, but you are already saying that you wont accept it. What if God came down and said: "Alright guys, you found me, I was only testing you all this time; and I congratulate you on doing a fine job of tracking me down. Now, here is how the universe works and here is how I defined the physical laws...")?

Yes, some people do need a faith in a Supreme Being to help them in their daily struggle for existence. I do not. I have become very philosophical about life, the universe and everything. I live each day to experience living, and to further my knowledge in both myself and in the world surrounding me. If life ends tomorrow, I will not be sorry. Yet, I will not encourage life to end tomorrow. I enjoy the thrill of the chase in life, the many secrets to be learned, the many new discoveries

to be made, and the many natural wonders that as of now defy any explanation I might give as to "how?" or "why?".

Don't confuse God with religion? That's like saying, I have the right in this country not to have any rights. In the literal sense of the expression, you may be partially correct, but it's debatable! Well anyway, nothing I'm going to say is going to make you feel any different. Nor do I have any strong desire to change your point of view. My only wish is for me to be satisfied with what I believe in, and for you to feel the same. If we do it two different ways, so what? As long as we come to the same conclusion and are contented (even if being contented means not to be contented, as it does in my case.). Before I get any heavier, I'll move on to the next letter and my next refutation/response!))

From Pete Gaughan:

I feel you've made a very common error in deciding that you "cannot in good conscience respect the Christian religion. Or any other religion for that matter."

People recently have begun to decide such things without considering context. Just as quoting a single Bible verse to prove a point ignores the complexity of the whole Bible, so it can be simplistic to 'lump' religion, organized or not, into a ball.

Remember that the Holocaust was not a religious travesty, it was a racial one; the fighting over India and Pakistan's independence began over religion but continued because of politics (right-wing authoritarians vs. left-wing authoritarians); the attacks of the Soviet Union on individuals and nations are the effect of humanism in control of a government. You said that religion "is responsible for more suffering than any other single factor in history." Let me counter with this:

the desire to rule over or control other human beings is responsible for more suffering than any other single factor in human history. The fact that some have chosen religion as a tool for attempts at such control does not excuse those who have chosen economics, politics, oratory, colonialism, technology, or even lack of religion. Examples of these are, respectively, Mao's China, the U.S. in Central America, Hitler, Britain (especially in Australia and India), Cuba in Grenada, and the Soviet Union in Poland.

Now take notice - these are widely different antagonists, with divergent aims and religions and world views. (the only common factor is the use of military force - a thought-provoking constant!) I have believed for some time that it is man's inherent evilness that has caused man's suffering, and I recommend this opinion to your consideration.

On a less-important note, you should re-weigh the benefits of 'organized religion': the sick healed, the hungry fed, the grieving comforted, at home and abroad. Yes, religion is a man-made concept; but it is a practical response to real-world dilemmas, and not as escapist's imagination.

P.S. Which religion says man should be miserable in his existence on earth? I can't think of one, unless it's 3rd-century ascetic Catholicism.

((You're ten centuries off. It was 13th and 14th century Catholicism. They first blamed themselves for the plague, then the Jews and anyone else. But more importantly, they believed that our existence on earth was to be an unpleasant one. Life's many pleasures of the flesh and mind were all sinful. This attitude was continued by Calvin in the 15th century and to an extent, is still believed in today in some parts of the world. How ludicrous! My heart goes out to the poor, believing, simple-minded folk of medieval Europe. Yet another example is the Puritans. They wore simple black and white costumes, because they felt it was sinful to so much as dress elegantly. How nice of religion to take the taste of the joys of life from its believers. How dare parents instill in their children their beliefs, without giving them a chance to decide for themselves. Having responded to your PS, I will now move on to the rest of your letter.

I disagree. I see religion as being far from practical; there many other ways for the sick to be healed, the hungry fed and the grieving to be comforted without having any religious strings attached.

Yes, it is man's inherent evilness--as manifested mainly in religion which has caused man's suffering. I will grant you that it is rather interesting that the single factor common to all those groups was military force. That's quite a mouthful of examples though. I disagree with your assessment that they are no more justified in killing than religion. Of course, nobody is really justified in killing; but what makes me sick to my stomach is to hear someone say, "God told me my son was the Devil so I put him in the stove." or, "God has instructed me to give you all this Kool-Aid laced with cyanide." or, "Let us drive the unbelievers from our land in the name of Gold, Glory and God ((the three big G's))! Don't try to give a rationale for your actions. Men, believers or non-believers, must accept responsibility for their actions. If it is because they are inherently evil (which I also believe to be part of human nature), fine; they're scum. But at least they have not hidden behind a sorry attempt to excuse themselves from any moral or social blame. Sanctuary my foot.

The Holocaust was not a religious issue? It was a racial one????!! If you take two Germans, it would be very hard to tell them apart other than one is named Schmidt and the other Schwartz! And you're telling me the latter should die because of his name! I'm sorry, I don't buy that at all. Try telling it to the relatives of the six million Jews who died at the hands of Hitler and his lackeys. Many religious issues end up turning into political ones. An excellent example of this is the 30 Years War. This war started in Bohemia between Ferdinand and Frederick, both vying to become the next Holy Roman Emperor. One a Lutheran, the other Catholic. As the war entered into the Danish and then Swedish and finally French phases, it became a political issue as the French (Catholic) sent money and other types of aid to the Swedes (Lutheran) in order for them to continue their war against the Holy Roman Empire. The same holds true for India and Pakistan. There wouldn't be a Pakistan, nor a Bangladesh today if not for religious differences. Man has the potential for great evilness, and religion is one of his tools.

Well, thanks for an interesting letter. Write again soon.))

From Rod Walker:

ANDUIN has a very nice lettercol. Not to mention it's a good zine overall. The print could be a little darker and maybe a little larger, though. My eyes are like the rest of me: not as young as formerly. I'm sure other fogeys such as Davis and Peery feel the same. I'm wearing my specs, however....

Religion and all that: Attaching "blame" to any institutional structure for its mistakes in the past is a dangerous and often illogical procedure. Institutions evolve and change; the Church which launched the Crusades or the Inquisition simply no longer exists. If you are to blame the modern Church for those ancient events, then may I presume you oppose any alliance with England because of George III's policies toward the Colonies? ((No, but you may assume that if I had my way, we would still be a colony of England's, as we were in the wrong in the Revolution.))

If we are going to let present policy be dictated by past sins, we will totally isolate ourselves. I assume you refuse to be a Republican because of the sins of Harding and Nixon, and refuse to be a Democrat because the party once condoned slavery, and....

(But even in terms of specifics, you need to exercise care. What, may I ask, has Christianity to do with wars between Pakistan (Moslem) and India (Hindu)??? Or with the Holocaust, which was conducted by a political agency which at the time was avowedly and officially anti-Christian?) ((I was making a point about all organized religions, not just Christianity. As to the Holocaust, I sure didn't see six million Christians persecuted. I may be waving the bloody shirt here a bit, but I was only giving an example.))

Coming to grips with religion, it seems to me, has very little to do with one's opinion of this or that institution. And I will suggest that you have not yet really come to terms with the question of "religion" in general, if for no other reason than a lack of in-depth understanding at this point. The ultimate questions of humanity and God do not particularly trouble the young (I know, I was there once), so that those concerns become important later on.

A given congregation or church will provide an easy, no-think answer to these questions. This "no-think" sword has two edges. One no-think answer is to accept the congregation and its viewpoint. The other no-think answer is to reject both and believe that you have thereby got some sort of definitive answer. The problem arises when you realize that you have never actually investigated the questions.

In EuroAmerican society, at least, this investigation of questions will need to revolve around the man Jesus. Kevin Stone is going to tell you, and I am going to tell you (but for different reasons) that he was the Messiah. Since there can be no Messiah without there being a God, you may well wonder whether this statement conflicts with my last letter (unless you caught certain statements in it). However, sooner or later it will (I hope) seem important to you to seek an understanding of that transcendent (and yet manifestly finite) entity whose being seems inextricably enmeshed with that of our own race. Jesus came to us as a messenger, and that message can still be recovered today for

so I believe), even though his life, works, and teachings are only imperfectly reported to us. Organized Christianity (in general) believes in the inerrancy of the Bible...something which obviously cannot be true. But once you accept the Bible as a flawed document, you open a can of worms of such (apparent) complexity and such (obvious) controversiality that most people give up and go back to the "no-think" solutions.

But do not scorn the Church. For all its flaws, it has carried the message across the centuries, so that it can still reach us. For that role, it was a necessary institution. Indeed, given the sociopolitical contexts of the times through which it moved, it was virtually the inevitable institution. It is too easy to reject a given church and believe that you have thereby dispensed with religion. And it is too easy to see the Bible's flaws and thereby conclude that it has no virtues (or that its virtues lie in such things as its poetry or its elevated ethical teachings). But, as with a chestnut, when we peel away its husks and then its shell, we find a wealth almost unexpected even though we knew it was there...so too with something like the Bible - when we have stripped away the dress, we find something unexpected and which yet is known. It is this shock of unexpected recognition that we call faith.

Well, you have plenty of time yet, and, if you are lucky, although you seem to have come to grips with "God", She will seize an opportunity to come to grips with you. There are more things in heaven and earth....

((Whew! First of all, I think you didn't read my response last issue very carefully. I was only citing specific examples of atrocities. Of course coming to grips has little to do with one's opinion of this or that institution. I never said it did!

You're are absolutely right about these "no-think" answers. I was a bit confused, I must confess, as to the part of your letter dealing with Jesus. As far as I am concerned, I have satisfactorily settled these issues for myself. Perhaps I am still too young and inexperienced; but I detest the word young. I prefer to think in terms of mature and immature. The same cannot be said for experience though, I'll grant you that. Let's just say I'm still open-minded. I wouldn't rule out any possibilities.

As for the Church carrying the message across the centuries: Perhaps you are right, but I would hope not because it shows an inherent weakness in Man. A weakness I believe that I am above.

But yes, given the circumstances, I suppose that an institution like the Church was a natural one. That is no excuse today though. Afterall, turnabout is fair play. If I cannot criticize the church for past failings, then I cannot praise it for its positive contributions in the past! As for the Bible, I think it is about time I read it. Anyway, thanks for writing again.))

From Mark Murray:

Now that I know how much you like us Catholics - may I suggest you consider attending my alma mater - Holy Cross College in Worcester, MA. Their football team is 8-0 and listed #2 in Division I-AA.

((Actually Mark, I don't hate you Catholics. I hate organized religion in general. I suppose last issue's examples sort of suggested that Catholics are the worst of the offenders. As to the truth of that, I can't say for sure. Holy Cross sounds like it's right up my alley!))

From Dave Anderson:

I just received ANDUIN #24. It was very interesting to say the least. Controversy returns to ANDUIN! First of all, about the religion topic. I do believe there is a God. I believe He started off the Big Bang and that the things (the animals and eventually humans) mentioned in Genesis were created in the Big Bang, thus God created the world. The 6 days and 6 nights mentioned should be 6 million years or something like that. I hope you understand where I am coming from. People who have discussed the religion topic in ANDUIN have not discussed the Shroud of Turin - The supposed to be burial cloth of Jesus Christ. I believe this is the strongest physical evidence available for those who believe in Christ and thus God that He existed. I will still believe and everyone else will believe what they like. So, why mess up a good zine like this in such a controversy? My dad said once that the things not to be discussed with friends, if you want them to still be your friends- 1) Religion 2) Politics, I forgot the other thing, but, I'll put something in the 3rd place. You should not discuss the Linsey-Wrobel argument! But, me being my stubborn self will discuss the Linsey-Wrobel argument anyhow.

I think that Ed is correct. He should not have double ordered his units but, his intent was to have each of his units to support themselves. This Controversy would not have ever erupted if Ed had just wrote A Bul S A Gre; A Gre S A Bul. Oh well, I don't like seeing feuds. They are too messy and get friends hurt and affect other people. It hasn't affected me except that I think they should stop it. It is such a waste, so trivial. I do not subscribe to either zine, so I cannot really say anything positive or negative about either zine or person.

I guess that's all for now. I hope I didn't stir up anything too much, but, I thought you would like to hear my opinion. I don't want a feud with anyone. I would just like to play my games and ~~I'd rather die~~ be the most honest person in the hobby and hopefully someday get into the Boardman numbers with a win and be on Bern Sampson's Top 100 Stars and win in a poll or run a zine. That's all I ask. Sigh. -Your toady forever, David.

((Well my little toady, have patience. In time, all good things will come true! The Shroud of Turin means nothing to me until they let scientists examine it and date it. As far as I am concerned, it is just another hoax. I like your father's advice, and I like yours even better! You will be happy to hear that Linsey and Wrobel are friends again, but I doubt that Wrobel will be signing up for any more games in VD! Why ruin a good zine with such a useless controversy when I know that no one's opinions will be changed? Probably I do it so I can get readers to respond en masse as they did this issue. Great filler! Actually, the first

step in reconciliation is communication, so maybe this is a positive step, I don't know. In any case, at the very least I'm learning a little, and I enjoy learning. As for feuds, I am convinced that they will almost always exist in a hobby such as ours. Too many divergent personalities. But what is currently going on isn't a feud in any sense of the word. It is a controversy, but I see no name-calling or any other indication of a feud.))

From Paul Rauterberg:

Ah, the SAT scores. I don't remember what mine were, but they were shitty to be sure. I ended up in the Graduate program at the University of Chicago, however, so high SAT scores aren't prerequisites to success, and one can still do well without them. Does that make me a low potential, high achiever? Well, after being admitted to the doctoral program at the U of C (in British Diplomatic History), I turned them down and went out in search of a blue collar job. I was a hard-core Marxist in those days, and wanted to share the lives of the "people." After six years as a Union representative and machinist, I am now buying a bar in Madison, and will settle down as a capitalist exploiter of "the people's" need to drink. Am I now a high potential, low achiever? Sigh.

((You turned down a doctoral program in British Diplomatic History?!?! Boy, I better look into U. of Chicago a little more carefully! No, SAT scores are not a prerequisite to success, that's for sure. The people's need to drink, eh? Will somebody please explain to me this obsession (some) people seem to have with drinking; and, for that matter, smoking? Is it that they really don't believe the facts that both are harmful to your health, or that they don't care? I'm really at a loss to understand why anyone would do something like this and knowingly shorten their lives.))

From Dick Martin:

Nice seeing you again last weekend. I love those little surprises (as if seeing Brucks and Gary at the same time was a little surprise!).

ANDIJIN was good again this time. The computer article was really cute - my Atari is a much more laid back machine. I was very surprised at your promised controversial stand - are you prepared to defend your assessment of Cal Ripken Jr.'s ability?

Good grief, I should buy you all dictionaries. Of course, alcoholic and drunkard are very different. Alcoholism is widely viewed as an illness with possible genetic causes. Once you have it, it is a permanent condition, even if the subject no longer consumes alcohol. Drunkard is an informal term usually directly related to an excessive consumption of alcohol leading to drunkenness. Do you want me to send you a pamphlet on alcoholism? You can find them in many grocery stores. It has not ceased to amaze me that Gary insists upon parading his ignorance in front of

the world by equating "alcoholic" and "drunkard". No wonder he tore those pages out of his dictionary.

Much the same is the case with "crooked". You may not recall EE 18, which was devoted largely to fictionalized and embellished tales of my faults, but I have every reason to believe that it influenced the final outcome of BIAM. I did not mean this in the sense of crooked/dishonest as crooked/improper use of influence. If anybody wishes to equate the two, that's up to them. I didn't mean it that way when I wrote it.

Brucks, as usual, attempts to put words in my mouth by stating that I called Gary a "competent, yet dishonest, GM." In truth, as you can see by reading the complete quote in Gary's letter, I merely stated a preference. No names were named, nor were any implied. Since I made no allegations of dishonesty, I don't feel any great urge to "defend" this point.

Brucks also manages to totally avoid my point about violating his own HRs by picking on trivial details. Well he should, it would look bad if he wrote that he was inconsistent. Eric, you heard at Kathy's when he implied that he was becoming more strict over the phone. What conclusion did you draw, Eric?

If Brucks is totally innocent regarding my allegation of inconsistency, why doesn't he say so?

All this going over the same stuff again and again is getting really boring. Those two have been after me for a year now. Gary has been whining about this alcoholic/drunkard stuff for well over a year now. Even ignoring him doesn't seem to make any difference. Brucks loves to pick on me for fictional or minor nonsense. I don't know what their fascination is with me. The least they could do is come up with something new.

((Sorry Dick, I gotta disagree with you on a good portion of your letter. To be honest with you, I don't even remember which word (alcoholic or drunkard) you used for Gary way back when. To me, the words are the same because they both imply something derogatory in a person. Moreover, what business is it of ours about another person's personal life? As for this "crooked/dishonest" business, no names were named? Hell, the quote was only taken from a response to a letter from Gary. I certainly knew who you were talking about. Now this issue, whether Gary is a crooked GM and whether EE 18 affected BIAM, is something worth talking about. I think you may have a case of it affecting the game, but to set the record straight; Gary is by no means a dishonest GM. I regard him as one of the best GMs in the hobby in fact. As to whether he made a mistake in printing that issue when he did (I have no doubt that what he said needed to be said), is debatable.

As for Bruce, I don't think he is inventing anything nor is he being trivial. I mean, forgetting which country you were playing?? After all, in a disagreement over what was said in a phone conversation, it is your word against his. So the points he made simply add credence to his word and take it away from yours. What he said at Kathy's was that he used to be a less strict GM. Especially concerning phone conversations. This is nothing new, he has said this in the past.

I sort of find this entire thing between you and Gary and Bruce distasteful, especially considering that I regard all of the

parties involved as friends. But Sch, you really have to be prepared to stand by what you say, especially when criticizing another person in the hobby.)

From Bruce Linsey:

This is the first chance I've had to reply to ANDUIN #24, what with preparations for my move, etc. It occurs to me that perhaps my criticism of you was a bit harsh; you really don't interrupt letters all that often.

I see in your letter column where some people, especially Tallman, think that VD isn't such a great place for novices to start. I've already pointed this out here, I think, but it bears repeating: novices are usually more careful in writing their orders correctly than are experienced players. I'm speaking from my own GMing experience, and I've GMed dozens of novices. But you see, this debate is all theoretical - why not let the horse's mouths say their own vays or nays. I have a large number of novice players in VD right now, including seven in the RIGEL game. I am not afraid to let their opinions of my GMing serve as my ultimate vindication. I challenge Terry Tallman to write to these guys directly asking whether they feel they made a good choice by starting in VD, and to print their comments. Names and addresses are available on request, though so far none of my critics have had the guts to actually check with my players.

Don't get me wrong - I do have an occasional player come in only to screw up and leave for more lenient GMs. That's unavoidable, given the way I run games. Ed Wrobel and Tro Sherwood certainly would have been better off starting elsewhere, of course. But they are exceptions. Wrobel's "Linsey`Cycle" might more accurately be stated like this:

1. VD announces game openings and about 40 players, old and new, send in game fees.
2. The games go on for a year or two.
3. One careless player miswrites an order, blames BRUX, and all the old Linsey critics emerge from the woodwork to enlighten the world about what a horrible zine VD is to play in.
4. The games march on like a Timex watch amidst the storms of controversy.
5. Go to step 1.

Then again, I suppose it could be argued that all these mindless Linsey toadies just don't realize how horribly they've been screwed for all these years. Oh, well.

Speaking of Tallman, I get the impression that he judges me rather harshly. Nothing major, of course, but every time I read one of his letters or issues, it seems he manages to work in a critical comment toward me. Maybe I'm imagining it.

Organized religion is one of the worst disasters ever to befall mankind. This is the 20th century and we have science and technology to explain things that, in the past seemed to be "acts of God". Nowadays we should know better. Think of the millions of people who have died or suffered for a concept that is probably a myth. But I say too much. I invariably step on people's toes

when I discuss superstitions such as religion. (Tough, though; I've as much right to express my views as anyone else.)

Luedi hit the nail on the head: Hutton and Stone both had you tied up in a logical knot regarding the Wrobel Affair. And I'm pleased to learn that calling players collect should go against my grain. I'll just have to grow my grain differently from now on!

Take it easy - ANDUIN is nothing short of a blast.

((On novices- You certainly have more novices getting "screwed" than any other zine I can name. You also have experienced players getting the same treatment. I honestly don't know who writes orders better. Novices tend to have more unorthodox ways of writing orders (i.e. having arrows pointing for supports, etc.) but both types of players seem to make the same amount of trivial, careless errors.

Yeah, Tallman doesn't seem to like you, but I don't think you have to take it personally. He's a lot like Lew--very abrasive.

I agree totally with you about religion and please feel free to always contribute your views here.))

From Dan Falter:

Yes, Terry, I may be the world's worst GM. However I ask indulgence on two points- (A) TPD is one of the least expensive zines with no sub or game fee - you get what you pay for et al. (B) While still one of the worst, least reliable zines in creation, TPD is also much improved. At the current rate by mid 1984 I should hit mediocre & by late 1985 it should be merely poor. However, I agree that TPD may well be a negative if cheap experience for a novice. Life has its successes & its failures. To date TPD has been an interesting failure for me. So it goes. P.S. On the subject of Gonzo - a straight never would understand Gonzo - it's a nonacquired taste - either you catch from the start or you probably never will. Hunter's world view is just not what Middle America is all about - he's using English but for all a straight can grok of the syntax or meanings, it could be High Martian. The whole of "Fear and Loathing" is a set of variations of the impossibility of the two cultures EVER cohabitating in the same reality.

((Uh, yeah right Dan. (???) Having never seen a copy of The Pink Dragon, I'll refrain from making any comments on it.))

From Terry Tallman:

My comments on the chess hobby refer to the leadership and organization of the United States Chess Federation. I have no problem with the players or local organizers - but the national organization is the very model of Larry Peery's ideal. Big bucks, big projects, and so on.

Willamette (only one I) is in Salem, Oregon.

The comment on Bruxism was merely meant to demonstrate that there is a wide variety of GM's. And no GM will appeal to everyone. And every GM will have his pad of toadies.

Your remark on transfers is similar to what I did, 2 years at a Community College and then on to the big time. I went to school while in the service wherever I was stationed so I have credits from 4 community colleges and 4 universities - U of Maryland, U of Wisconsin, Seattle Pacific U and the U of Washington.

((But Terry, the people running the USCF are these very same local players and organizers in most cases! Also, I happen to like the USCF very much and think it is a very positive institution for furthering the play of chess in this country. I am the commissioner of the High School Chess League here in Nassau County (roughly half of Long Island) and they (meaning the USCF and the ACE) have donated \$200 for trophies and lessons for members of our league. My expenses for this season will come to roughly 500-700, and their contribution was absolutely essential for us.

I agree with you totally about GMs.))

From Steve Knight:

Thanks very much for the sample issue of ANDUIN. I originally wasn't going to sub, since I'm coming precariously close to my internal emotional limit for hobby involvement, but Anduin's good enough to make it too hard to turn down. Hence, you've got a Cupcake on your sub list, although I'll warn you now that I may be deadwood for a while, until I'm a little more on my feet after my recent move. Like I said, hobby involvement...

Wanna talk shop a bit? What kind of computer have you? I'm partial to Heaths myself - a good hobbyist/programmer machine. You get good results from your dot-matrix printer - am I right in guessing you've got an Epson with a good ribbon? Are you taking the whole kit and kaboodle to college with you, to continue to ease the publishing business?

I was interested to hear that you're not considering Carleton - it's right across the river from my alma mater, St. Olaf, and there's a friendly rivalry between the two. (This is assuming there isn't more than one Carleton College though.) Carleton's a good school, kind of the "Ivy League of the Midwest," but certainly nothing to specifically recommend it over any of the others you mentioned. What are you looking to go into?

I liked your reading list, and would love to hear some reviews! I figure now that I'm a ~~hatefull~~ subscriber, I can put some pressure on you to keep me entertained in this way, yes? I'm a medieval literature fanatic, especially Dante and Chaucer, although Wolfram von Eschenbach ranks up there, too. I've finally gotten around to reading a decent version of Malory's Morte D'Arthur, too. All good stuff if you're so inclined.

Well, I need to pop this in the mail soon, so I'll sign off now. Looking forward to more Anduins!

((Welcome aboard! Medieval literature eh? That sounds like a lot of fun; something I would definitely enjoy. Don't worry, some reviews are forthcoming. The reason I'm not interested in Carleton is that I can't bear to leave the East Coast. If I did, I would risk being kicked out of the ECC! Seriously, I want to

stay somewhere in this area, just not too close to home! College rebellion period and all that you know.

Hal, would care to tell Steve about yourself?" "Certainly Eric. Hello Steve, my name is Hal and I am Eric's computer. I am an Apple II+, single disk drive, BMC Monitor and an Epson Mx-80 F/T printer with Graph Tracks. Unfortunately, my ribbon isn't dark enough to please certain members of the hobby, like Rod Walker, but it is good enough to last for a while more. Yes, Eric is taking me to college with him, we go everywhere together." Thank you Hal. Getting back to me; I'm looking to major in Political Science, Law or possibly History. I'm leaving as many doors open as is possible though. I know what I like, but things and times change.

Unlike many other pubbers, I don't mind having deadwood at all. It helps pay for this thing and adds little to no extra work. Besides, with so many people commenting, I always have plenty of topics and letters to print/talk about. This isn't to say that I don't want you writing also. Please feel free to! I try to print everything I receive (in the old Brutus Bulliten tradition), but am sometimes forced to edit due to size.)

From Mark Lew:

Markie has a typewriter but will gladly accept donations for another.

I think Yale is the better school around by quite a bit, but there are people who don't think like me. I like the ~~philosophy~~ of education of St. John's College (in Annapolis?) and pursue it to the logical conclusion of not going.

I think there are quite a few people who think like Brux naturally (these are the people sometimes referred to as "Brux toadies."). These people fit into his games very nicely. Some of these assume it's natural for everyone to think that way and are perplexed when others complain and assume they are griping for some silly reason of their own.

In fact, Willamette is in Oregon somewhere with my brother.

Yes dear the hobby is indeed like a feudal system, hence my parenthetical on the status quo. Most of my non-seguiturs aren't, to one familiar with the workings of the Lew mind,

I'm no longer so quick to blame the church for atrocities such as the crusades &c since it occurred to me that in the absence of the church, different casus belli would no doubt be found.

My vote cancels your vote Brux (sort of)--I like comments from the pubber inside the letter. If it's not too confusing, I think it'd be nice to avoid it in Bruce's letters..

I don't think Dick was wrong in claiming that he didn't recall calling Gary C. dishonest. I sure don't recall most of the things I say. And I'm sure that I now disagree with more than a few.

!!!! agree on the SAT scores and go further to maintain that the intelligence which helps to obtain good scores is equally useless

Is "caving" the same as spelunking? Not only does "spelunking" sound more exquisite, it is better established as a word. I think.

I thought that I was becoming a bit less ignorant of sports, but I could have sworn that Orioles were a Football team, not a baseball team.

I wonder if I am as hard to follow as Mr. Halpern -- I know that I lapse into academic language sometimes. I think his arguement will fall apart if some person does create life -- not out of the question, I think.

I decided a few years ago that debating existence of God never got far because of definition trouble; I had better discussions about freewill, ethics and other related but slightly more scientific things. You say you think Kenny is making assumptions about God. So are you--that's what I mean about definition trouble. For now I'll venture only so far as to insinuate that perhaps being alive isn't that much different than acting in accordance with laws of nature.

I'll disagree with your contention that Machiavelli would have been a good Diplomacy player. He had a lot to say on the subject but I'm not sure he'd apply it well. You'll notice he didn't manage to rise to power. I'll put my money on Bismark.

Issue ended just in time. It's Halloween and I have to get out of here before the twerps start to come. Bah.

((I won't even attempt to repond to all your comments! I'll tell you though that I agree with you about religious debates, and the same about blaming the church for atrocities. As for Dick, this just goes to show what having a good memory and keeping accurate records can do. Obviously, you don't keep great records, huh? Uh, write again soon; your's, Palter's and Walker's letters all have one constant--I often have no idea what you're talking about!))

From Kevin Stone:

How the heck are you, you mere high school student you? Are you looking forward to college yet? Do you know what the best thing about being a freshman is? They become sophmores!

Enough abuse, on to real stuff. To answer your question, rappelling is climbing down the side of a rock face with ropes. You let them slide through your hands and a metal ring across your belly. I've enclosed an article I wrote for the school newspaper. If you want to run it, it's OK by me.

Sorry, I don't share Rod Walker's passion for Supreme Being discussions. I decline to reply to him, Ken and you on the whole issue. (And please don't read this as a sign of conceding the arguement. It's just that I'd rather talk about baseball.)

I guess it's on to the summer game. Ken has twisted my meaning a little bit. I never claimed that the Mets play exciting baseball. I believe I cited artificial surfaces as a way of producing exciting baseball and as Ken knows, Shea is a natural grass field. Also, of course the O's are a better team than the Mets. I have never claimed otherwise.

Yes Ken, I realize that winning isn't boring, but my point is not who wins or loses, it's the style of play. (I had to resist the urge to quote Grantland Rice in the last sentance.) The Orioles have done a fine job of tailoring the team to their ball

park. They have gotten a bunch of sluggers with limited mobility. Don't get me wrong Ken, I think the O's have a great organization and wish the Mets were half as successful. But waiting for a slugger to blast a home run is not as exciting as watching the young Joe Morgan walk, steal second, go to third on a fielder's choice and then get in a collision with the catcher at home plate after tagging up on a short fly ball. Yes, I like pitching and defense, but I also enjoy the one element the Orioles lack - speed.

As for Cal Ripken, Jr., yes, he's a fine talent, but he's only got two years under his belt. The list of best all-around ballplayers can get pretty crowded - Warren Cromartie, Eddie Murray, Robin Yount, Mike Schmidt, Fred Lynn...if he keeps up his performance for three or four more years, then you'll have a pretty good case. Of course, by then Darryl Strawberry will have won one of his record five MVP awards, and everyone will have to take a back seat.

I thought you might like to run the following article. I'm sure I'll have another tale after this tomorrow when my roommate and I go to Buffalo for the Raiders-Bills game.

...Anyway, back to our story, the tale of a college student trapped in a world of dreary weather, tasteless food, a withering sex life, mounting homework and stale beer. As he sat down one day after lunch to begin studying for his two tests the next day, a vision occurred to him - **Ralph!** That's right. Ralph Sampson (all 7'4" of him) would be making his only appearance of the year in Cleveland that night. What are grades when you can watch a millionaire earn his money by dunking a basketball? A Cavs (a sorry organization in Cleveland that masquerades as a professional basketball team) fan down the hall was found to drive (his arm twisted in the shape of a pretzel) and the trip was on.

"What seats do you boys want," asked the man behind the window. "The cheapest things you've got," replied the boys. They forked over the required five spot and entered the Coliseum. Of course, the boys had been lying - they didn't want cheap seats at all! With the guts of a cat burglar, they boldly sat in \$13 courtside seats. Fans would come along and the boys would move, always closer to that elusive goal - a seat on the Rockets bench next to **Ralph**. Although they never did get close enough to Ralph to shake his hand, the boys had fun nonetheless, and began the long road back.

The car sped over the Ohio countryside, well above the speed limit. This last fact did not escape the attention of an Ohio state trooper, who pulled them over. "Son, this here is a 35 mile an hour zone and you peaked out at 53. I will have to give you a citation for this."

"Thank God!," said the smartass. "Just don't give him a ticket!"

The jailcell mattress was stiff and cold. The smartass stared at the ceiling, wondering why he couldn't have B.S.'d his way out of this one as he had all through high school. Then a voice came to him: "Always know your audience," said the voice, which the smartass recognized as the spirit of **BRUX**. "Next time I will," thought the smartass, as he rolled over and dosed off to sleep.

Well, it's time to make like a baby and head out. Good night, sleep tight, and don't let hardly anything bite.

PS Have a happy and safe Thanksgiving!

PPS Tell Ken that yes, I was scrawny when he saw me, but I've been lifting all semester and I'm starting to fill out again.

((Response on next page))

((Just what do you think you're trying to do?! I'm very disappointed that you didn't get angry at either me or Ken (and I know Ken is gonna be made too)! How dare you be nice!!! Well, I suppose I'll respond to your letter now that I've vented my full rage on you.

I pretty much agree with your assessment of the O's, but I don't think I agree with you on natural and artificial surfaces. I like grass, it adds more to the game, I feel, because of a) grounders and b) it maintains the tradition of BBall being the National Pastime. "Artificial Turf" doesn't go well with "National Pastime". Quote little tale there, is it true?! Yeah, Strawberry looks like he's going to be ~~might~~ good, but he too will have to take a back seat to Don Mattingly, destined to go down as the new Mr. Yankee. Talk about natural ability!!!)

From Ken Halpern:

Frankly, I think that in a couple of thousand years we will look back on modern monotheistic religion and consider it as much mythology as we do the ancient Greek and Roman beliefs. We will also be just as incredulous of the fact that people really believed in a metaphysical divine being as we currently are of the fact that people worshipped the Greek and Roman pantheons. However, I suppose you are all the products of your time, so, having already explained my belief in the non-existence of God, I will cease to belabour the issue.

On the topic of Cal Ripken Jr., I did not say last month that Cal is the "best player ever to play baseball"; I said that he is the "best player in baseball". The Clipper, the Scooter, the Babe, Lou Gehrig, Mickey Mantle, Yogi Berra, Rogers Hornesby and Hank Aaron are **not** in baseball - they are OUT of the great game. As for Reggie Jackson, he is currently a vastly inferior player to the Ripper, as indicated by the fact that he hit 122 points lower than Cal, and 13 fewer home runs, while playing an outfield position poorly (Jr. played the vital shortstop position well).

((As usual, you have misconstrued what I said. The way you said it last month, made it sound like you meant best baseball player **ever**, which Cal is not. I have my doubts if he is even the best player in baseball today. For sure he is good, but others such as Brett, Yount and Schmidt would give him a good run for the money. As for Jackson, he is well past his prime, of course he was lousy last year! But overall, he is one of the best ever -- certainly better than Cal (at least so far).))

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Calvin Edwin Ripken Junior on his much deserved American League Most Valuable Player award. He merited it for his transcendent play

during the season, he received it with grace and class. I plan to be at his Hall of Fame induction ceremony in 25 years after he has completed a long and extraordinarily successful career with the Orioles (only) ((dream on)). He is, by the way, my favorite baseball player and I would seriously contemplate the perpetration of a violent act on the person of George Steinbrenner were the latter to purchase him to play shortstop for the evil Empire of the summer game, the New York Yankees.

Even now, I can envision the scenario for the seduction of Ripken, George III, having just fired (fill in any name), the manager of the Yankees, decides to lay out much green stuff to convince Cal Ripken, Sr. to come manage in New York. The old guy accepts the offer, since the Orioles are too consistent and stable to fire their manager and offer Pop Rip a chance for upward mobility. Steinbrenner calls Senior Cal into his office and tells him that the major priority of the Yankees is to "change or destroy young Ripken". Old Rip does not wish to see his son slain, and calls him:

Sr.: Cal, come to the Dark Side of baseball, and you will gain power and pennants beyond your wildest dreams!

Jr.: No, the money and media attention will consume my very soul, and I shall be but a vassal of the Dark Side!

Sr.: Cal, this is your father you speak to, your flesh and blood! Come to me, Cal, join your father on the Dark Side! Find the Yankeeness in your heart, you know it is there!

Jr.: Ben!...Ben! Help! I am trying to resist, but it's so difficult!

Enter Obi-Wan Altobelli. Yoda Earl (as spirits)

Alto. & Earl: Give it up, boy, the big bucks are too powerful!

Jr.: No! No!

(Huge spectral Steinbrenner head appears in front of Ripken)

Stein.: That's it boy! Let your anger flow! Five years! Guaranteed! Two-million per year, bonuses for hitting 30 home runs or batting .300! Let your anger flow into money!

Jr.: No! No! Neoooooooo! Aaaaaaaaaagh! (Sudden Transformation) Yes! Of course! Now I see it the Yankee way! Forget team goals, just build up statistics! Go for bux! Endorse all kinds of products! Charge for autographs! Get into verbal fights with the management and get people fired! (etc. etc.)

The Yankees would win the pennant for a couple of years until the Oriole's farm system came up with another Ripken or two, which would start the whole cycle again (the endless cosmic conflict between good and evil, represented in microcosm by the Oriole-Yankee conflict).

I hesitate to respond to the attack on the statement "'The Orioles won...because they hit more home runs than everybody else...", since this quote was excerpted from my letter out of context. I gave a number of reasons why the Orioles won the World Series and you simply edited out all but one reason. Is suppose

you did this to be inflammatory, so I will not here refute you. Any reasonable, intelligent person need only refer to my last letter to see the inanity of your attack.

Mr. Stone, thank you kindly for the **Wall Street Journal** articles you sent, which, I am ashamed to say, I had not seen. They were quite accurate in their assessment of the Baltimore Orioles as a superior organization on all levels.

Funny thing, though - when I compared the Mets to the Orioles position-by-position I completely forgot about 3rd base - as if it just didn't exist! A psychologist would have a ball with that. Nonetheless, Todd Cruz, as bad as he is, has a good glove and a modicum of power, and I prefer him to Hubie as an interim player until the Birds trade some of their riches for a good third baseman.

The Brux rules conflict reminds me of baseball's pine-tar issue. Of course, in the pine-tar case, Billy Martin's argument was invalidated by the fact that he didn't call the illegality before Brett stepped into the batter's box, and thus tacitly accepted Brett's at-bat as valid. There is nothing analogous to that in the Linsey-Wrobel case, but they are both examples of the ancient conflict between the spirit of the law and the letter of the law. In the U.S. judicial system, judges bear the responsibility of interpreting the law in order to do justice rather than mechanically carrying out statutes without consideration of the circumstances surrounding each specific case. Any judge's (or jury's) ruling can be appealed to a higher court, and if a ruling gets to the U.S. Supreme Court (the highest court in the land), the decision that is made on it becomes a legal precedent (effectively a law). So, based on the way this nation operates, I would side with Wrobel, since his intent was certainly obvious, and thus, justice would be done if Linsey permitted the orders as Wrobel had quite clearly intended them. However, the context of this ruling is not United States society, it is a Diplomacy game in which all of the players were aware of the rules before they started the game, and in which they all have the right and responsibility to expect strict and scrupulous GMing. Therefore, although I think the rule is stupid and unfair, I must side with Mr. Linsey, who did the right thing in enforcing his House Rule.

I'm out of breath.

'Til Next month, Ken.

((Hmm, strangely enough, I find very little to disagree with here. I agree with you on religion as well as your analogy between the Pinetar incident and the Linsey-Wrobel thing. I guess Brett's homer really should have counted, along with being given a warning never to over-tar his bat again. The same should be true with Wrobel. I believe in giving second chances and the benefit of the doubt.

You may view the Yankees as the evil team, but I certainly do not! I'll admit that I hate Steinbrenner and that he knows close to nothing about baseball, but the Yankee system is the greatest ever to befall on mankind. Besides coming from the greatest city as well as state in the nation, the Yankees have a long tradition of truly outstanding players as well as teams. The Yankees have an excellent farm system except that Steinbrenner refuses to use

it enough (although this year he did bring up Mattingly and a few others). Moreover, it is every little American schoolboy's dream to grow up and be a Yankee, not an (uggh) Oriole!! I'm a firm believer in tradition, and the Yankees have quite an impressive one. How unsurprising that Ripken is all of a sudden your favorite player, I wonder why? As to my supposedly taking a quote of yours out of context: What? Me inflammatory?!))

From Nick Felella:

Enclosed is the letter from the Post. If it is not from Billy Highfield, maybe it is from his cousin, or someone.

Isn't telling me what Kathy wrote in her press GM interference? Thanks for reminding me of Byrnecon, I hope to go.

I was reading in DW that you won a Dip tournament? Good work.

Who is this Joe Sharbino. Some guy who played for the Kleavelynned Indians, I suppose. You left out Mays, Musial, Cobb, etc. as far as great players go.

((You're right, there are a lot of great players aren't there? Yes, that was wee Willey's article, imagine him taking responsibility for it!! It figures he would like that bastion of good news reporting. I never told you what Kathy wrote, I only told you that she had given you a nick-name. I didn't say what it was until Byrnecon. I called in to Kathy and said: "Hey Kathy, Doormat is here!!" And she responded: "Which one?"!! Yeah, I won the Eastcon Dippy tourny. 'Twas fun.))

From Larry Peery (excerpts):

I thought I would drop you a line and raise a little, come I mean. I enjoyed #24 more than I did your anniversary issue for some unknown reason. At least it has stimulated me to some kind of response, unlike the other seven zines I've received in the past week.

As I read those pages and pages of letters I searched for something new, something original, and something positive. I didn't see it. I found the same old stories being told for the umpteenth time with the same heroes, the same villains, and the same stories of misunderstanding and wrong-doing. I've gotten to the point where I can almost predict who wrote what letters without actually knowing the name of the author. I'm not taking a pro or con position (Can one?) on this, I'm just commenting and wondered if you felt the same

((Sorry I spliced up your letter so much Larry. I'm running out of room. I'm inclined to disagree with you. Some of the writers do have distinctions which make it possible to tell who is writing, but the topics being discussed certainly aren't being gone over again and again. At least I don't believe so. At any rate, until I have time to do more writing myself, I intend to stick with the letters. Eek! I'm out of room!))

1981IP

Summer, 1909: France retreats A Bel-Ber. Germany r A Mun-Kie.

**GERMANS AND ENGLISH REDUCED TO ONE!!! TURKS BREAK INTO ATLANTIC!!**

England (Quirk): E\_Liv\_H;

E\_Bel\_H; E\_HOL\_S\_F\_Bel.

France (Chisholm): A\_Bur-

BEL; F\_ENG S A Bur-Bel;

F\_Iri-LIV; A\_YOR S

F\_Iri-Liv; F\_Nth-EDI;

A\_Nap-ROM; A\_Mar-SPA;

F\_LYO S A Mar-Spa.

Germany (Felella): A\_BER\_H;

A\_Ven-APU; E\_BOT-Swe;

F\_BAL S F Bot-Swe;

A\_KIE-Hol.

Italy (Falter): E\_DEN\_S

AUSTRIAN\_A\_Mun-Kie(neo).

Austria (Ozog): A\_MUN\_S

RUSSIAN\_A\_Sil-Ber.

Russia (Byrne): E\_ST\_F(sc)-

Bot; A\_FIN-Swe; A\_NWY S

A\_Fin-Swe; A\_Sil-BER;

A\_TYR & A\_BOH S AUSTRIAN

A\_Mun; A\_Gal-WAR; A\_BUD H.

Turkey (Nedaner): A\_Bul-SER;

F\_Wes-MID; F\_Aeg-ION;

F\_Ion-NAP; A\_Alb-VEN;

F\_ADR C & A\_TRI S A\_Alb-

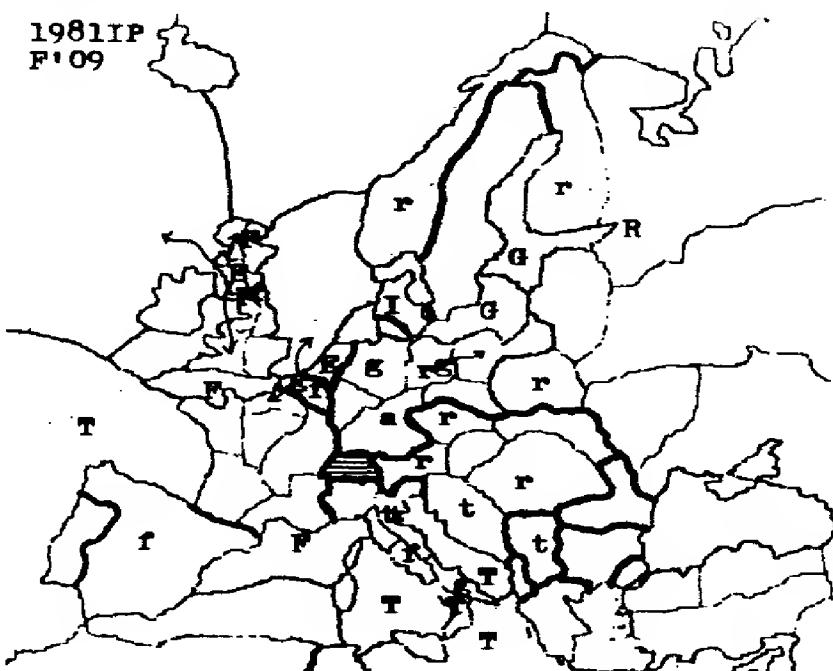
Ven; F\_TYN S F\_Ion-Nap.

"Fall, 1909"

Germany r A Mun-Kie.

**GERMANS AND ENGLISH REDUCED TO ONE!!! TURKS BREAK INTO ATLANTIC!!**

1981IP  
F'09



The proposed concession to Russia and DIAS draw were both defeated last turn. No new draws were proposed.

The German A\_Ber may retreat to Fru or OTB. The English F\_Bel may retreat to Pic, Nth or OTB, and the English F\_Liv may retreat to Wal. City, N.At or OTB. Here is the 1909 supply center chart:

England: Lye, Edi, Hol (1). Remove 2 \*.

France: Home, Bel, Spa, Por, Nap, Lon, EDI, LIV, ROM (10). Bld. 2.

Germany: Kie, Ber, Mun, Den, Ven (1). Remove 4 \*.

Italy: Swe, DEN (2). No room to build. Plays one short.

Austria: Rom, MUN (1). Even.

Russia: Home, Rum, Bud, Vie, Nwy, BER (9). Build 1.

Turkey: Home, Bul, Ser, Gre, Tri, Tun, VEN, NAP (10). Build 2.

So let me see if I got this straight; Turkey took Nap & Ven from France and Germany, France took Rom from Austria, Austria and Italy took Mun & Den from Germany and neither Germany nor Russia took Sweden from Italy, right? Uh huh, the Boardman number custodian is never going to believe this!

\* & \*\* England and Germany may have less to remove if they retreat their respective units OTB.

A question has been raised as to whether this is a DIAS game or not. As you may or may not remember, I picked this game up from Ken Halpern. He ran it for a while in Anduin after he folded Erebor and then I took over completely. In the middle somewhere,

I stated that my games were DIAS (I have since then changed all games to non-dias, though all games which were announced as DIAS were told that they would be completed that way). Neither Ken nor I had ever mentioned DIAS (or non-DIAS) in our original HRs. So, I am completely at a loss as to what to do with this game. Therefore, I am putting it up to a player vote (since all 7 of you are still alive). NVR will equal non-DIAS. Please vote on this issue and if any of you have any major complaints, let's make Mark Berch our Ombudsman. His address is 492 Naylor Place, Alexandria, VA, 22304. Any comments/suggestions Mark?

PRESS:

Turkey-Russia: Hi! Sorry about lack of communication. Telegraph lines have been down. I will start writing soon; as soon as Christmas vacation comes. Let's keep the alliance together.

Russia-Turkey: I vote no to the concession to me, as the way I see this, if it wasn't for you, I wouldn't be here!

France: French forces today liberated the last pirate strongholds in England. Bandit forces are reported to still be at large in the lowlands but Admiral Chizbag stated, "They won't be for long."

Russia-France: The Turks are coming! The Turks are coming!

Amsterdam ((England))-Queen\_Kathy: Ozog could not stop talking about you at the most recent Rusnakcon. It was disgusting. I think Ozog is in love with you.

Russia-England: Now tell the truth; isn't this more fun, than when you were beating up on me!

Russia-Germany: I just realized that we forgot to invite you to the party! You see, the nations of R/A/I/E decided to get together and meet in Germany for a Beer fest!

Austria-Russian: Baglady, when Nick the Dick gets down to one center, can we keep him alive too? Let's keep all the players alive at one center, except your Ladyship and the Creep, of course. Yes, please convoy me to English soil!

GM-Austria: What do you mean, "When"!!

Austria-GM: I found a nickname for Nick: "Nick the Dick."

Baglady-Doormat: That's right you - Germany! I figured you should be named doormat since everyone is walking over you!

GM-Russia\_and\_Austria: Thanks for helping Nick to feel at home.

Austria-Germany: I feel like a true Orc doing this, but it will teach you more about the game this way than any classroom.

Cedarhurst-Moscow: 1) Sorry I couldn't follow orders but it was too potentially funny to pass up. 2) You still owe me a Boardman Number for my game Aurelian - please, I need it.

Amsterdam ((England)): The king of the orcs announced today in Munich that he is opening a new business. He is now selling authentic Kathy Byrne panties. All panties are guaranteed to have been worn by Kathy Byrne. You will have your choice of color and of what sort of stain you want on the panties. Interested weirdos may contact Eric the orc at 69 Pervertplatz, Munich.

Russia-Elf: All you had to do was tell me that you wanted Munich, I'm a very reasonable person!

Russia-GM: Hi! 

GM-Russia: Grrrr....

**1982HF**

Summer, 1905: Germany retreats A Bur-Ruh.

**HEY! WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE BORING!!!!**

England (Hakley): F\_SWE-

Nwy; F\_Nwy-ST.P(nc);  
F\_ENG-Bel; A\_Pic-PAR;  
F\_Spa(sc)-H; F\_GAS\_S  
E\_Spa(sc).

France (Brachman): A\_Bur-  
RUH; A\_BEL S A\_Bur-Ruh;  
F\_Por-SPA(sc); A\_MAR\_S  
F\_Por-Spa(sc); A\_Par-  
Gas.

Germany (Makuc): A\_Ruh-  
Bur; A\_Mun-Ber; F\_BAL-  
Ber; A\_Kie-HOL; A\_BRE\_S  
ENGLISH A\_Pic-Par.

Italy (Palter): A\_Tyr-MUN;  
F\_Nap-TYN; F\_Tyn-WES;  
F\_N.Af-MID; A\_Ven-PIE.

Russia (Morris): A\_EIN-  
Nwy; F\_St.P(sc)-BOT;  
A\_Tir-VEN; A\_Gal-BOH;  
A\_VIE\_S A\_Gal-Boh;  
A\_SIL\_S ITALIAN A\_Tyr-  
Mun; E\_Aeg\_transferred  
to\_German\_front\_H.

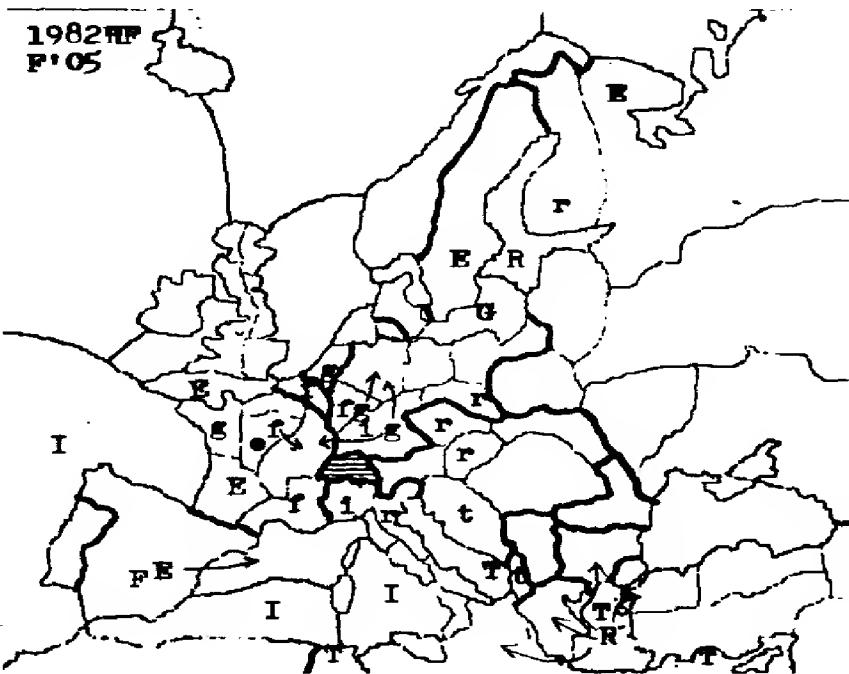
Turkey (Frueh): F\_Smy-  
AEG; F\_EAS\_S F\_Smy-  
Aeg; F\_Ion-TUN; A\_Ser-  
TRI; A\_ALB\_S A\_Ser-Tri;  
F\_ADR\_S RUSSIAN A\_Tri-  
Ven.

**"Fall, 1905"**

Summer, 1905: Germany retreats A Bur-Ruh.

**HEY! WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING?! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE BORING!!!!**

**1982HF  
F'05**



#### Retreats:

Russian F\_Aeq -Ion, Gre, Bul(sc), Con or OTB.

German A\_Mun -Bur, Kie or OTB. German A\_Ruh -Kie or OTB.

French A\_Par -Bur or OTB. English F\_Spa(sc) -Lyo or OTB.

Hey, it was only five retreats!! Here is the 1905 supply center chart:

England: Home, Nwy, Swe, Bel, ST.P, PAR (7). Build 1 (or 2).

France: Bre, Par, Mar, Spa, Por, BEL (4). Remove 1 (or none).

Germany: Kie, Ber, Mun, Den, Hol, BRE (5). Even (or build 1 or 2)

Italy: Ven, Nap, Rom, MUN, TUN, VIE (3). Remove 2.

Russia: St.P, Sev, Mos, War, Rum, Bud, IRI, VEN, Gre? Bul? Con?  
VIE (7) (or 8). Even (opr build 1).

Turkey: Smy, Ank, Con Con?, Gre Gre?, Bul Bul?, Ser, TRI, TUN (8)  
(or 7). Build 2 (or 1).

????? If you have trouble understanding that supply center chart, TOUGH!!! Does this call for a separation boys? Please vote on this idea along with your next set of orders. The deadline is on page 3.

PRESS:

London-Paris: Winter in Paris? We certasinaly hope so...

London-Berlin: How goes it? We do okay?

Cedarhurst-Trieste: If you were serious, so much the better. If not take me out cleanly; the centers won't be covered.

London-Ankara: Okay, so Ericane has a P.O. Box marked Brachman outguesses?! Hmmm... Fleet Palestine S F Cyprus-Eas Med! So there!

Moscow-Munich: Well since I can't offer you tea in Brest, how about a little vodka ion Berlin?

Turkey-Italy: My eternal thanks - you're a good guy!

Turkey-France: You're going to laugh last and best.

London-Rome (via Casablanca): Would you like to stop in at Lisbon for repairs and R&R? Or are you headed for the cooler waters of the north?

London-Moscow: Nice work. When can we expect the Tsar to drop in for lunch? And will he be taking the Orient Express or the St. Petersberg Limited?

London-Vienna: Care packages are on the way for the poor war-torn city of Austrian pride...

London-Belgium: Hey! Where'd all these Frenchmen come from! What's M15 & M16 been up to anyway! Massive infiltration of 5th columnists over the boarder from (supposedly) sacred Ruhr!

+++++  
1981KE  
"Fall, 1908"

SIXTEEN UNITS ORDERED TO HOLD!!!

France (Morris): F POR, **F'08**

F\_Bre, A PAR & A\_Gas H.

Italy (Rauterberg): A Tun-

GAS; F WES & F MID C

A Tun-Gas; A MAR S A

Tun-Gas; F N\_AF &

F SPA(sc) S F Mid;

F LYO S F Spa(sc);

B\_BUR-Pac; A\_BUH-Bur;

A BEL S A Ruh-Buri;

A PIE H; F ION does

likewise H; F TYN

makes it three H.

Russia (Carter): F Pic-

BRE; F ENG S F Pic-

Bre; A Edi-LPL; A\_SIL-

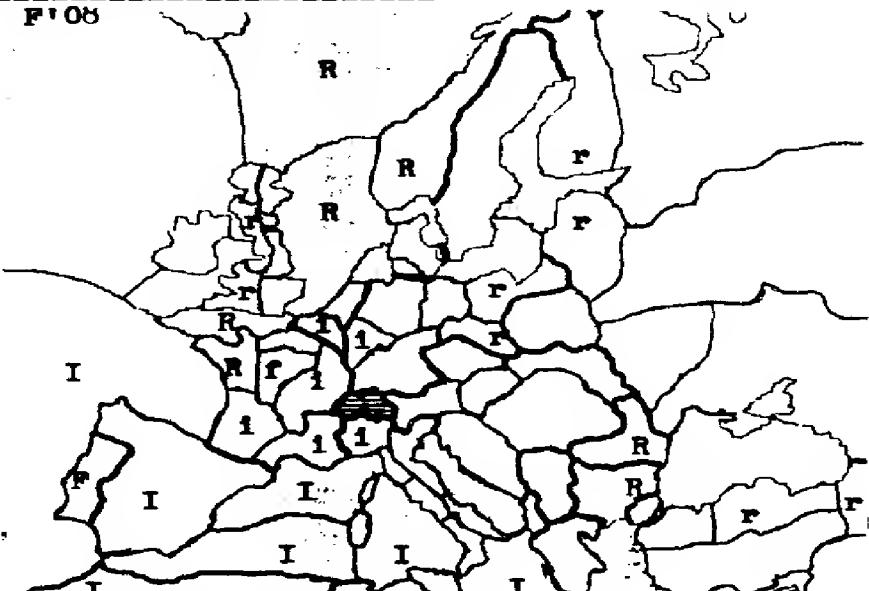
Ber; A\_FRU-Ber; F NTH S

F Eng; A WAL, A LIV,

A FIN, F NWG, F NWY,

F BUL(ed). F RUM, A ANK,

& A ARM H.



Ho hum, The French A\_Gas and F Bre retreat to the box.

Here's the (yawn) 1908 supply center chart:

France: Par, Mar, Bel, Bre, Por (2). Even (3 anni).

Italy: Home, Tun, Tri, Ser, Vie, Mun, Gre, Kie, Den, Spa, Hol, BEL, MAR (15). Build 2.

Russia: Home, Ank, Con, Smy, Bul, Rum, Bud, Nwy, Swe, Ber, Lvp, Edi, Lon, BRE (17). Build 2 (was 1 short).

No press, no proposed draws, deadline on page 3 (zzzzz) .....

1981 IR

"Fall, 1907"

Summer, 1907: Russia v F Swe-Bal.

**HEAVY FIGHTING REPORTED IN NORWAY! ITALIANS SCREW UP ORDERS.**

England (Ansoff); A SWED-

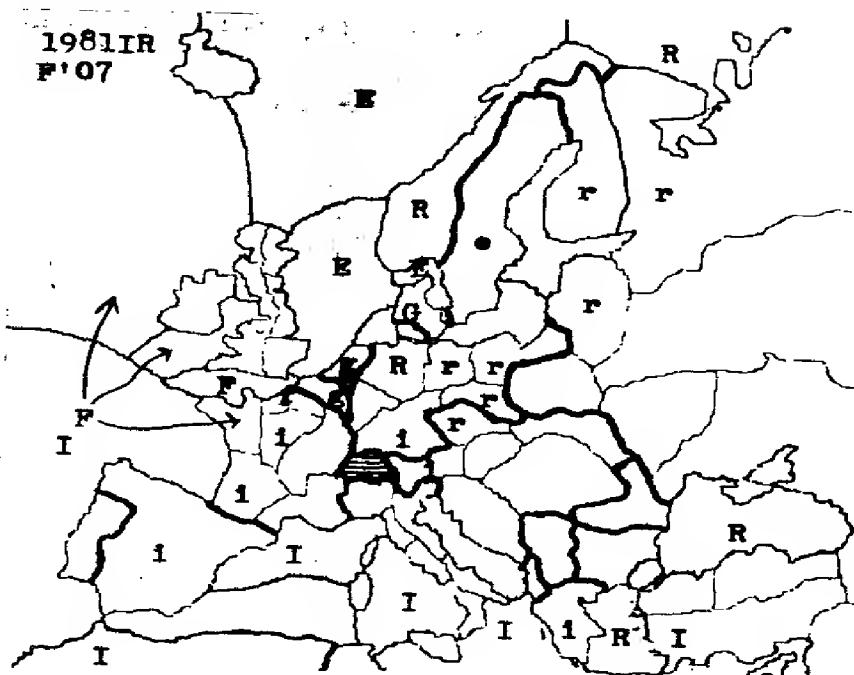
NWY; F SKA, F NTH &  
F NRG S A Swe-NWY.

France (Martin): G\_EIC-  
Bel: F ENG S A Pic-  
Bel: F Mid-EIC-

Germany (Carter); F KIE-  
DEN; A HOL S A Bel;  
A\_BEL\_S\_ITALIAN\_A Bur-  
Pic ((iso)).

Italy (Kollmer): A\_BPA-  
For: A\_GRE-Pie((imp))  
F\_TYN & F\_ION\_C\_A\_Gre-  
Pie((imp)); F\_Eas-SMY;  
A\_Pie-TYR; A\_Bur-PAR;  
F\_Wes-MID; F\_N\_AF\_S\_F  
Wes-Mid; F\_LYO-Spa(sec);  
A\_Mar-GAS; A\_MUN\_S  
RUSSIAN\_E\_Rul-Bor((perc))

Russia (Furev): F\_AEG\_S  
ITALIAN\_A\_Gre(otm);  
F\_BLA\_H; A\_BOH\_S ITALIAN  
A\_Hun; A\_War-SIL; F\_Bal-  
KIE; A\_BER\_S F\_Bal-Kie;  
A\_PRU\_S A\_Ber; A\_Mos-  
Lvn; F\_NWY\_H; F\_BAR,  
A\_FIN & A\_ST-E\_S F\_NwY.



The French F Mid is dislodged and must retreat to Bre, Iri, or DTB. Here is the 1907 supply center chart:

England: Home, Den, SWE (4), Even.

Frances: Par. Bre. Par. (2). Remove 1.

Germany; Kis., Hol., Bel., DEN (3). Even.

Italy: Home, Tun, Smy, Tri, Gre, Vie, Ser, Mun, Spa, Mar, PAR  
(13). Build 1.

Russia: Home, Ank, Con, Bul, Rum, Bud, Nwy, Ber, Swe, KIE (12).  
Even.

T

Rome-Moscow: Let's tax off Germany and go after England. He's

Paris-Germany: Considering that you probably never wrote to England asking him not to take your center, how can you claim that he is a Jerk on the block.

Lack of cooperation is his fault?

Germany-Fariss: Agreed. I fucked up.  
Devil-Poole: Me at the bottom of a river? No way! I'm not in

Seine yet! *China, Germany, (Dowmey, etc., etc., etc., etc., etc.)*

France-Italy: Who are you - Makuc or Kollmer? I'm gonna be really disappointed if I find out I've been writing to the wrong one of you all along.

E-I/B: Why don't you just take the draw?

GM: 'Cause they gotta get rid of pests like you who write bad one liners first!

Edinburgh: A cold wind shrieked about the turrets of the crumbling fortress, recalling the cries of warriors as they fall wounded in battle. Before a smouldering fire in the Great Hall, the Lord of the Isles started as a dark form detached itself from the outer shadows.

"And who be that!?" Loudly, but without conviction.

"It is I, thy Secretary of State, here as bidden, Lord."

"Ah, yes. Well, go on, make thy report. How fare my warriors this day?"

"As well as might be expected, Lord. Thy troops in Scandinavia may well hold a center this year. Thou shalt not lose another, unless thy ally Richard lands at Thanet . . ."

The Lord sighed. Was this to be the legacy of greatness? Was this the bitter fruit of those bright days, when his banners snapped in foreign breezes and his words dictated the fates of millions? Was it all reduced to these cold walls, and to the dark forms that rolled, ever more menacing, from the East and South? But -- best to conclude the present business.

"Well -- ought else to report?"

"But one thing, sire. That is to say, a small, trivial thing. Of no imp . . ."

"Come, come. I am too weary for this. Out with it, man!"

"Tis Lord Karter, sire. He says -- well, that is, I think he says, for he does not speak the language well -- he is a foreigner after all -- he says, sire," the words come faster now, "he says that . . . you are not playing the game correctly." He was shouting amid a sudden silence.

The Lord of the Isles stared at the messenger, as though uncomprehending.

"He said -- what?" Outside the gale had subsided to a whisper.

"That thou are not playing the game corr . . ."

"THAT I WHAT??" The Lord was on his feet, his eyes blazing. And then he laughed -- a roaring, booming, bitter laugh such as had not been heard within those walls for many days. "He says that of ME?? I whose first regular game had a 1969 Boardman number? I, who was a postal GM when Ericane was 9 years old? I, who subscribed to Erewhon when Rod Walker was a captain in the Air Force? He says that I . . ." his laugh abruptly became a snarl. "Rouse the guard! Fetch my sword and buckler! We shall march against that surly knave. We shall drive him back to that frozen wasteland from whence he came . . . Send messengers abroad, to Richard my ally . . . we shall not be far behind them!"

"But sire, what about the Russ . . ."

"The Devil take them!" roared the Lord of the Isles. "We shall show that filthy Karter that we know how to play this game!"

And the cold wind roared its approval through the battered towers.

Ericane-Lord\_of\_the\_Isles: When I was 9 years old?! That was the best piece of press ever in an issue of ANDUIN!

**1981KI**

Autumn, 1908: Russia retreats A Ber-Pru.

Winter, 1908: England builds A Lon, A Liv & F Edi. Russia removes A Ukr.

"Spring, 1909"

FRANCE GAINS GROUND IN ITALY! MORE THAN FOUR UNITS MOVE!!

England (Chisholm): A Liv-

EDI; F Edi-NRG; A Lon-

DEN; F NTH C A Lon-Den;

E\_BOT-Lvn; A ST.P &

F BAL S F Bot-Lvn;

A\_Kie S A Ber ((nsu));

F KIE U, H; A BER &

A RUH S A Munt; A\_MUN

S\_A\_Ber; F BAR S A St.P.

France (Halkey): E\_TUN-

Ion; E\_TYN-Nap; E\_LYD-

Tyn; A Nap-APU; A ROM S

A\_Nap-Apu; A\_TUS-Ven;

A\_PIE-Tyr; A BUR S ENG

A\_Mun.

Austria (Murray): E\_Ion-

Nap; A\_Apu\_S\_E\_Ion-Nap;

F\_ADR & A TRI S A\_Vent;

A\_VEN H; A\_TYR-Mun;

A\_BOH S A\_Tyr-Mun.

Russia (Belliveau): F\_Eas-

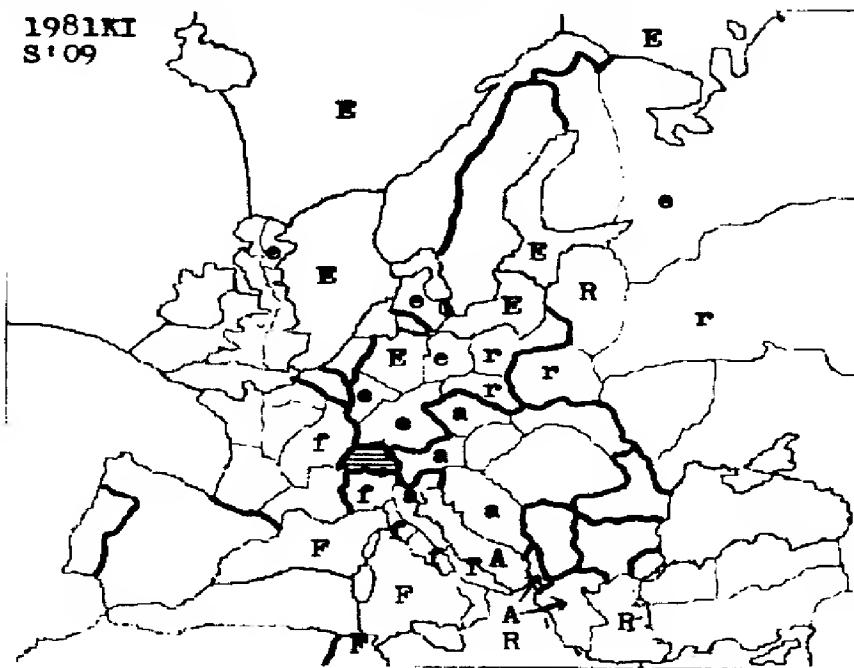
ION; F\_AEG S F\_Eas-Ion;

A\_MOS & A\_WAR S F\_Lvn;

A\_SIL S A\_Pru; A\_PRU S

A\_Sil; F\_LVN H.

**1981KI**  
S'09



The Austrian A\_Apu is annihilated and the Austrian F\_Ion may retreat to Alb, Gre or OTB. Deadline for Fall 1909 is on page 3. Last seasons proposed DIAS draw failed to pass. I also neglected to print everyone's press last turn. Sorry.

PRESS:

Paris-Vienna: Did the Austrian Ambassador receive our gesture of good-will in Apulia? Or did the French Occupation entertain the Imperial Fleet in Naples?

England-GM: Did more than 4 units move this time?

GM-England: See the title.

Paris-London: Still friends in the North, eh?

Paris-Moscow: Thanks for the warnings...I hope I have less to worry about than you do.

GM-World: As draw votes may become more frequent here, I thought I might state my position on them. First of all, all games are DIAS. Secondly, I will not list the tally of proposed votes. If a player would like it made known what he voted in public, he may instruct me to do so. Press releases saying that a player voted such and such should be taken at face value, and are not necessarily the truth. Any questions?

1982D

"Spring, 1908"

Winter, 1907: England builds F Liv & A Edi. France builds A Par.  
Austria removes A Pru & A Tyr. Turkey builds F Smy, A Con &  
A Ank (will play 1 short).

**BOARD SPLITS IN TWO: TURKS VS. AUSTRIA & ENGLISH VS. FRENCH!!**

England (Carl): F Nrg-

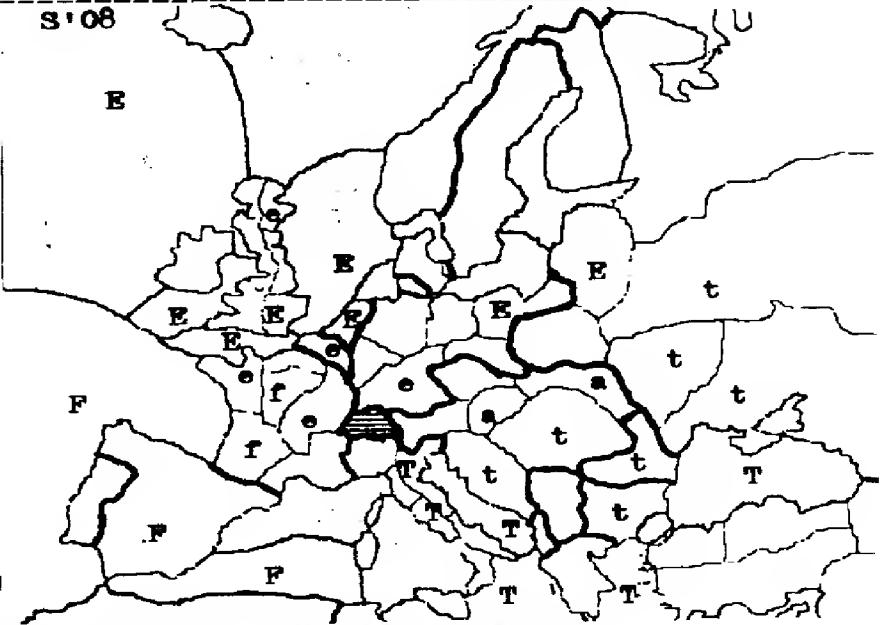
S'08

NAO; F Liv-IRI; A BRE-  
Gas; F ENG-Bret; A EDI H;  
F NTH S F Lon-Eng;  
F Ber-PRU; F LIV S F Ber-  
Pru; A Kie-MUN; A Mun-  
BUR; A BEL S A Mun-Buri;  
F HOL H; F LON-Eng.

France (Brachman): A Pic-  
PAR; A Par-GAS; F MID  
S A Par-Gas; F Tun-WES;  
F Mar-SPA(sc).

Austria (Stone): A VIE S  
A Gal; A GAL S A Vie.

Turkey (Brawner): F Tri-  
ADR; A Ser-TRI; F VEN S  
A Ser-Tri; F Smy-AEG;  
F Tyn-ION; A Con-BUL;  
A Ank-Sev; A Sev-Ukr;  
F BLA C A Ank-Sev; A MOS  
S A Sev-Ukr A RUM-Galt;  
A BUD S A Rum-Galt F ROM H



No dislodgements this time. Deadline for Fall 1908 is on page 3. Kevin Stone is the new Austria player (thanks Kevin).

PRESS:

El\_Isaro\_(from\_somewhere\_east\_of\_the\_Urals): "My beloved Russian people, welcome the Turks with open arms, for otherwise will their booted heels sink into your necks... go get 'em, Sultan! Good-bye Austria, hello Ottoman Empire!"

Thanks to all ANDAIN players --

NO MURS THIS MONTH!!!!

Keep it up!

1982AK

"Spring, 1907"

Winter, 1906: France builds A Par. Italy builds F Nap, A Rom & A Ven.

ITALIANS STOPPED COLD!!!

England (Jung): E\_MID-  
Eot; F Bre-GAS; E\_ENGE-

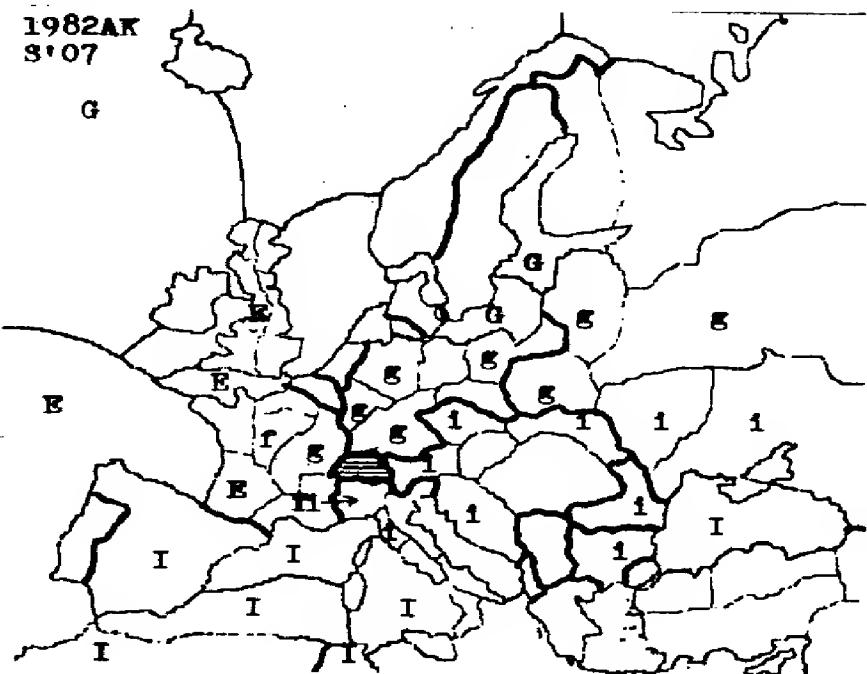
Mid; F Cly-LIV.

France (Tallman): A Gas-  
MAR; A PAR S GERMAN  
A Bur.

Germany (Wrobel): A BUR S  
FRENCH A Gas-Mar; A Bel-  
RUH; A KIE S A Muni;  
A MUN H; A Sil-WAR;  
A PRU S A Sil-War; A LVN  
S A Mos; A MOS H; F NAO  
S ENGLISH F Eng-Mid;  
F BAL & F BOT Cross  
Fingers H.

Italy (J Ellis): A\_SEV-  
Mos; A UKR S A Sev-Mos;  
A\_BUL-Sev; F BLA C A Bul-  
Sev; A\_GAL-Wac; A\_RUM-  
Gal; A Ven-TRI; A Rom-  
TUS; F Nap-TYN; F Ion-  
TUN; F Tun-N.AF; A\_BOH-  
Mun; A TYR S A Boh-Mun;  
E\_SEA(sc)-Por; E\_LYD-  
Spa(sc); A\_Mar S\_E\_LYD;  
Spa(sc); E\_WES-Mid.

1982AK  
S'07



The Italian A Mar must retreat to Pie or OTB. The proposed concession to Italy and DIAS draw were both defeated last turn. The E/F/G/I draw is reproposed this turn. The deadline for F'07 is on page 3.

FRESS:

France-Germany & England: Huh, I'll be damned. Maybe you guys aren't pseudo Mad-Lads.

Germany-France: My lust for dots? And not a calculated decision to remain with a proven ally rather than switch to an NMRing standby?

Germany-GM: Yes, I did let him keep Paris. Clever move, eh?

GM-Germany: I'll say.

Smiling\_Premier-Kaiser: Admittedly, this isn't the best way to gain a victory, but as you said, the name of the game is Toady, I suppose.

Germany-Smiley: Oh, gee, can I join Ozog and Tallman in your Grecian harem? Sounds simply darling. Pass the k-y jelly.

Italy-France: Whadda ya mean Germany hasn't been nice? Heck, he just enjoys your country, that's why he's in it. Also, thanks for the suppost into Spain from your prejudiced army in Gascony.

Where did the term "Wop" come from anyway?

France-Italy: I apologize but we've got to take a moment out in your march to victory. A draw is a very exciting thought. And I think we may have a stalemate line with yours truly as lynch-pin.

**1982Bx-m02**

**"Fall, 1905"**

Summer, 1905; England retreats F NPac-Hirosaki. Russia:NRR!!  
A Omsk n OTB.

**BREAKDOWN IN CHINESE-JAPANESE RELATIONS!**

Italy (Keller): E\_TYRRHENIAN-Tunis; A\_ROME-Venice; A\_TUSCANY & A\_APULIA S A Rome-Venice; E\_AEGEAN-Bulgaria(sc); E\_GREECE\_S\_E\_Aegean-Bul(sc); F\_IONION\_S\_E\_Greece; A\_Ethiopia-SUDAN; F\_Red Sea-GULF OF ADEN; F\_BAGHDAD H.

China (Nadaner): A\_TURKESTAN-Afghanistan; A\_OUTER\_MONGOLIA-Manchuria; F\_Annam-SIAGON; A\_CAMBODIA S F\_Annam-Siagon; E\_CANTON-South\_China\_Sea; A\_Laos-THAILAND; A\_TIBET-Calcutta; A\_NEPAL & A\_BURMA S A Tibet-Calcutta.

Germany (Hailey): A\_WARSAW\_S\_A\_Ukraine; A\_UKRAINA S AUSTRIAN A\_Romania-Sevastopol; F\_BALTIC Floats (on watch for French U-Boats); F\_Holland-BELGIUM; A\_Belgium-RUHR; A\_Burgundy-PARIS; A\_PICARDY S A\_Bur-Par; A\_Kiel-MUNICH.

Japan (Makuc): E\_SOUTH\_CHINA\_SEA-Canton; F\_South Pac Sea-PHILLIPINES; E\_KOREA-Manchuria; F\_MORROCCO S F\_Western Med; F\_WESTERN MED S F\_Morocco; F\_Karafuto-JAPAN SEA; F\_Japan Sea-KYOTO; F\_NPAC-TOKYO.

Austria (Anderson): A\_TRIESTE & A\_TYROLIA S A\_Venice; A\_VENICE H; E\_Adriatic-Ionian\_Sea; A\_Bulgaria-GREECE; A\_SERBIA S A\_Bul-Gre; A\_GALACIA-Warsaw; A\_Romania-SEVASTOPOL.

France (Dancause): F\_Celebes\_Sea-BORNEO; F\_SIAM GULF S F\_Cel-Bor; A\_ALGERIA-Tunis; F\_Spain(sc)-PORTUGAL; A\_Gascony-MARSEILLES; E\_Brest\_S\_A\_Paris((imp)); A\_Paris\_S\_E\_Brest.

India (Shuetz): A\_AFGHANISTAN-Turkestan; A\_DELHI & A\_DECCAN S F\_Calcutta; F\_CALCUTTA H; E\_Johore-Siam\_Gulf((insu)); A\_JOHORE U, H; F\_Java-CELEBES SEA; E\_Borneo\_S\_E\_Jav-Cel.

England (Scheifler): F\_NorPacOB-B-NORTH PACIFIC; F\_HIROSAKI S F\_NPacOB-B-NPac; F\_MidAtlantic-BREST; F\_ENGLISH CHANNEL S F\_Mid-Bre; F\_Nao-MIDATLANTIC; F\_OMSK H; A\_MOSCOW S F\_Omsk.

Turkey (Furey): E\_IRAN\_S\_A\_Sevastopol((imp)); A\_Sevastopol\_S\_Iran; F\_BLACK\_S\_F\_Con; F\_Con S A\_Smy; A\_SMY S F\_Con.

Russia (Jung): A\_Omsk-Moscow((insu)).

Thanks to Mark Frueh for the unneeded SB orders.

**Retreats:**

French F\_Brest -Gas or OTB. A\_Par -Gas or OTB.

Italian F\_Greece -Aeg, Alb or OTB.

Turkish A\_Sev -Arm or OTB.

Indian F\_Borneo -Bruni, Malayan Sea or OTB.

Here is the 1905 supply center chart:

China: Home(3), Vietnam, Manchuria, Outer Mongolia, Sinkiang, Burma, Thailand, CAMBODIA, SAIGON (11). Build 2.

Germany: Home(4), Denmark, Holland, Belgium, Sweden, Warsaw, PARIS (10). Build 1.

Italy: Naples, Rome, Yemen, Pentapolis, Tunis, Ethiopia, Mogadiscio, Baghdad, Greece, BULGARIA, Egypt (10). Even.

Austria: Home(4), Romania, Serbia, Venice, Bulgaria, GREECE, SEVASTOPOL (9). Build 1.

England: Lon, Liv, Edi, Ireland, Norway, St. Petes, OMSK, Moscow, BREST (9). Build 2.

(continued on next page)

Japan: Home(3), Karafuto, Phillepeanes, Formosa, Vladivostok,  
Korea, MORROCCO (9). Build 1.  
India: Home(3), Java, Borneo, Ceylon, Johore (6). Remove 1.  
France: Brest, Paris, Morocco, BORNEO, Spain, Portugal, Mar-  
seilles, Cambodia, Saigon, (4). Remove 3 (don't ask me!).  
Turkey: Con, Smy, Ank, Iran, Sevastopol (4). Remove 1.  
Russia: Omsk (0). O-U-T.

The deadline for Winter '05 and S'06 is on page 3.  
PRESS:

China-Japan: If you didn't attack me this turn I hope we can be  
allies. And even if you did I hope we can work something out.

London-Tokyo: Flid Lice, please. Hold the Mayo.

Lon-Mun: E/G! E/G! EGI?

Berlin: The Imperial German Government reported today that naval  
embarkation and debarkation maneuvers held by the Baltic fleet and  
units of the German Imperial Army were a great success. No  
injuries were reported, and the Baltic fleet is now on active  
patrol again after letting the troops off and then refeuling in  
Kiel. Meanwhile the army units recently returned from occupied  
Russia are heading for R&R in Munich while English forces mop up  
the last Tsarist guerillas.

Warsaw-Ukraine: Don't move, I've got you covered.

Berlin-Vienna: Non-agression, right?

Berlin-Paris: Sooner or later we will make you ours...

GM: Sooner.

Berlin-Tokyo: Desert Warfare? Must be a training exercise - we  
thought you gentlemen specialized in Jungles!

+++++ "Spring, 1889"  
**1982Ghp01**

Autumn, 1888: Italy retreats A Lev-EGY.

Winter, 1888: England builds A Lon; Sweden builds A Malmo (plays  
one short); Germany builds A's Mun, Kie & Dres; Austria builds  
A Spli & A Cluj.

#### ONLY SIX NATIONS LEFT!

England (Chisholm): F Mid-SAO; F Bis-MID; F POR S F Mid-Sao; F AST  
S F Port; A Lon-BRE (F ENGLISH Fast Ferry); A Gas-CAT; A NAV S  
A Gas-Cat.

Spain (Belliveau): F Cad-ALBS; A\_Cat\_S\_A\_Mar; A MAR H; F\_MOR-Alg;  
A\_MAD-Val.

Sweden (Charneley): A Mai-COUR (F BALS Fast Ferry); A\_Per-Sev;  
A UKR & A MOS S A Per-Sev; A\_Lev-Per.

Germany (Wrobel): F Den-KIE; A Kie-RUH; A MUN S A Kie-Ruh; A BUR S  
A Swi; A SWI S A Tyr; A Bud-VIE; A BOH & A\_TYR S A Bud-Vie;  
A\_WAR-Gal; A Dres-SIL.

Italy (Shuetz): A Pie-VEN; F Albs-VAL; F LYO S F Albs-Val; F\_WES-  
Alg; A Egy-LEV; F SMY S A Egy-Lev.

Austria (Anderson): A Arm-PER; A SEV S A Arm-Per; F BLA & A RUM S  
A Sev; F CON H; A Bul-SER; A Cluj-BUD; A SPLI S A Cluj-Bud;  
A\_SWA-Txt; A\_Viet-Gal.

The Spanish A Cat is dislodged and annihilated. The Austrian  
A Vie may retreat to Cro or OTB; the Swedish A Lev may retreat to  
Arm or OTB and the Swedish A Per may retreat to Sib or OTB.  
Please note that due to the annihilation last season of a Swedish

unit, Sweden actually had two builds. However, no one caught the error so it stands. Sweden will play 1 short this season. Sorry. The deadline for F'1889 is on page 3. Press on next page.

PRESS:

London-Rome: I broke Spain's support from Cat, now you can take Mar.

England: My new phone number is (617) 437-0956.

Denmark: Oh, you're back... just stopped by to borrow a dot. Thanks. See you again soon.

Ruhr: Better pull those wagons into a circle, Swabia.

\*\*\*\*\*

KINGMAKER

Turn 2--1456

CELT'S LAUNCH ATTACKS! BIG TRAFFIC JAM SOUTH OF KENILWORTH!  
STANLEY'S SHIP COMES IN! BERKELEY, HASTINGS TAKE ON HEIRS!

Jim Makuc's GREY'S GROUCHY GHOULS; Michael Quirk's POWER HUNGRY;  
Dave Anderson's WONDERLAND FACTION; Mark Murray's THORN IN THE ROSE.

EVENT RESPONSES: Le Christopher into Penzance; Le Margaret into Rochester.

BETWEEN TURNS: Plantagenet/Lancaster appears @ Windsor; Pole into play @ Wingfield.

MOVEMENT:

HOLDING: Grey @ Rockingham, Pole @ Wingfield, Stanley @ Douglas.  
Berkeley @ Brecon-W30-W23-W22-Cardigan (enters & seizes George).

Bourchier & Stafford @ Farnham-H38-Newbury-H29-H21...COMBAT!

Courtenay @ Bath-H31-H28-H21...COMBAT!

Cromwell @ Towton-M35-H24-H2-Tattershall.

Hastings @ W8-Harlech (enters & seizes Edward).

Mowbray @ Coventry-H4-Tewkesbury-H26.

Plantagenet/L @ Windsor-St. Albans-H22-H21...COMBAT!

Le Christopher @ Penzance-S13-S11-S9-Milford Haven.

Le Margaret @ Rochester-S26-S24-S22-S20-S18.

Le Rose @ Milford Haven-S9-S7-S5-S2-Douglas.

COMBAT: There are two combats in the H21 hex. First, Courtenay attacks Plantagenet @ 1-1 odds. The first card is: Vacillating Noble (discarded) and the second is: Plague-Norwich/2-1, Howard, Greystoke, Mowbray. The nobles killed roll for Plantagenet is 8 so he survives and this combat is indecisive. In the second battle, Courtenay attacks Bourchier & Stafford @ odds of 1-6 which makes this an ambush. The card is: Irish Revolt/Maj. Vict., Mowbray, Beaufort. The ambush is unsuccessful and Courtenay is now the prisoner of Bourchier & Stafford.

CROWN CARDS: Makuc 32X; Quirk 54L; Anderson 47W; Murray 4Q.

EVENT CARDS: 1) Card 8H to Grey's Ghouls; 2) Scots Raid--Percy-Alnwick, Warden/Marches-Berwick; 3) Revolt in Wales--Mowbray-Denbigh, Fitzalan-Chirk, Chanc/Lancaster-Conway, Chanc/Chester-Rhuddlan; 4) Embassy from Duke of Burgundy (no effect but the event deck is SHUFFLED!)

WHERE THE HEIRS ARE: Margaret is with Mowbray; March is with Hastings; Clarence is with Berkeley; Gloucester & Henry are dead.

NOTES: The fighting in H21 took place because the player controlling Courtenay neglected to submit neutral/hostile orders (see last sentence of postal rule 5). Courtenay must be either ransomed or executed before the next movement phase. The players involved may contact each other through the GM.

To answer a question, London blocks the roads to its south but not the road to its north. Shrewsbury DOES block the road through its hex.

Press:

CROMWELL TO WORLD: Damn! Forgot my sword!

CROMWELL TO WORLD: Hi ho, hi ho, it's off to work we go.

Burning towns and London down, hi ho, hi ho...

GREY TO ZOMBIES: I found it! I found the egg of the xenophobiacisticous lizard. And it's the last one. Now my spell will be complete! Igor, take this up to the castle and be CAREFUL!!

ZOMBIE IGOR TO GREY: OK, Boss. Here, catch, Franky.

GREY TO IGOR: NO, NO!! DON'T DO (SPLAT) THAT!

HICKSVILLE TO GREY: Maybe you should put Igor in xenophobi-attica prison.

HICKSVILLE: From "English History: The Untrue Story": "The battles that took place south of Kenilworth in 1456 were apparently the result of one of the earliest known cases of paranoia. After fighting an inconclusive battle with a force of Lancastrians he had accused of stealing his socks, Lord Courtenay noticed Lords Stafford & Bourchier approaching with their retainers. Shouting, "They're the ones, they want to kidnap me!" the deranged Earl of Devon led his troops in a vicious attack on the unsuspecting lords. He was greatly outnumbered, however, and the bewildered defenders soon captured him. One thing had been changed by these events, though--the introduction of violence to England made war inevitable."

Deadline for Kingmaker '83: January 2, 1983

#### HOW I SEENT MY THANKSGIVING (OR, WHEN NOT TO PLAY TURKEY!)

This last Thanksgiving was a truly memorable one. I spent most of the holiday at ByrneCon #69 (or at least that's what the cake said!). It would be an understatement to say that this Dip-get-together was a blast! Some of the attendees travelled from as far away as San Diego. First timers included Mike Mazzer, James Woodson, Pat Pakel and Bob Olsen. Poor Bob had no idea how violent these things can get! In all, there were over 30 people attending over the entire holiday. I arrived after having the traditional Kane (invite all the relatives and then some) Turkey Dinner, and was thrown in into a game of Family Feud -- the kicker being that it was the North vs the South so I was put on the team with Coughlan, Frank and Francine (don't ask me how they come from the South) and some guy from Georgia named Ray. I was told that I had to use my southern accent and answers not giving in that dialect would not count. Humph! The rest of the night was spent chatting with Coughlan and Bob Olsen, whom I had never met before. Bob is in all honesty one of the nicest people I have met in the hobby; much to nice to be a good Diplomacy player! He IS a good player though, and he proved this time and again over the entire weekend. I spent most of my time just chatting with people I had never met before, or whom I hardly ever get to see. I also played in a couple of Dip games, getting blasted away in most of them. I

think my best result on the weekend was a four-way draw in a gunboat game. I did have two six-way draws I remember; but the thing that sticks out the most about the games is that I got stuck with Turkey three times! Once between Byrne and Olsen (you know, the two who are always calling each other "Honey"). I think I lasted 'til '03 in that one. It's not that I have anything against playing Turkey, but somehow everyone seemed intent on knocking Turkey out of the game, maybe it was the spirit of the holiday... I also spent a good deal of time talking on the phone with such people as Terry Tallman, Steve Knight, Mark Luedi, Cathy Cunning and Jim-Bob Burgess. There were two games that were most memorable. One was a regular game of Dip where-in I had Turkey (what else?) to Jim Makuc's Austria, James Woodson's Russia, Carl Russel's Germany, Bob Olsen's England, Kathy Byrne's France and Mike Mazzer's Italy. This was my first game with Mazzer and I had nothing but bad things about him (like he was this year's winner of the Nixon award), so I was determined not to be stabbed by him, and hopefully to stab HIM, just to say I had done so. I allied with Makuc (that alliance lasted all of three years initially) but we soon turned on each other as A & T often do. Meanwhile, Kathy had been crunching Italy with Austrian aid and Olsen's England was marching on unhindered. Eventually, Jim and I worked out our differences and allied to stop E/F. Surprisingly, Olsen stabbed Kathy (I didn't think he had it in him!) so a general stop-the-leader alliance was formed and held. What was so enjoyable for me was working with Mazzer's Italy. Though he was down to two or three units for most of the time, he was a loyal ally, willing to do anything he could to help me out. Mike isn't at all like they say he is in those zines! The other really fun game was a Gunboat game played on Saturday night. I was England, Coughlan was France and Kathy was Germany. The two of them had it out for me from the beginning, and I was too tired to fight back so I puppeted to them. However, that wasn't good enough and it looked like they would take me out totally so I knew I HAD to do something to entice them into keeping me alive. Well, Woody was GMing the game (or at least attempting to) so I turned to insulting and making fun of him. I would write poems and limericks about what a simple minded antelope he was and what a bad GMing job he was doing. Woody responded by removing my units illegally!! Well, Kathy figured that if I good provide such good entertainment (and tell such obvious TRUTHS!) that I was worth keeping alive, so I became the Empire of the Baltic Sea, with a base in Kiel. I must have been feeling a little woozy because one turn I offered two free issues of Anduin to anyone who submitted press insulting Woody (everyone present, not just the players were asked and allowed to submit press!). Then the next turn I offered five free issues to the person who could most accurately answer the question: "How many Armenians does it take to GM a game?" This got some most amusing results and left Woody furious! I don't know how many issues I ended up giving away, but it was worth it. Naturally, Woody took it like the great sport he is, and I'm sure he isn't mad (wait 'till he sees my upcoming Kathy's Korner article!!!). I have to cut this short now, I'll see you all again next month.  
MERRY CHRISTMAS! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

-Bye!